17th March 1931]

A.—(*a*) The Government have not the information. Under section 11 of the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873, the power to fix and modify the local jurisdiction of District Munsifs' Courts vests in the High Court.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Irrigation

Action taken on the report of the special party on short crop in Kistna Western division.

640 *Q.*—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the report of the special party on short crop in the Kistna Western division;

(*b*) whether they have recommended any more lands to be included under ayacut and if so, how much;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that they have recommended that water can be supplied for these lands also until 15th November; and

(*d*) how much more land the Government have already agreed to include under the ayacut?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have not received the report.

(*d*) The Government have not come to any decision in the matter.

[NOTE.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the undermentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates noted against each:—

The Madras Services Commission (Amendment) Act, 1931—10th March 1931.

The Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931—11th March 1931."

IV.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS—RESERVED—*cont.*

The discussion on the above demand was continued.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 38,600 *for Executive Council be reduced by Rs.* 100'

in order to raise the question of the division of provinces on linguistic basis. I know that the Local Government said that the resolution of this Council with regard to the Andhra Province had been sent to the Government of India. It is no doubt, Sir, that it is the Government of India that has to deal with this question and that the Local Government may not take any initiative on that. But, Sir, it is a question

of great public importance and it is a question which has been agitating the public mind for at least two decades now. When we are going to consider almost immediately the Constitution of this country, this question of the distribution of the province on a linguistic basis must be tackled now. It is not necessary on my part now to enter into the details of the scheme from the financial and other points of view. But on the whole there is a very keen desire in this province and throughout the whole country for distributing the provinces on a linguistic basis, particularly as we hope when the franchise is going to be extended and true democratic institutions in this country are going to be introduced and are to be worked in the true democratic spirit. It is almost impossible to work the democratic institutions in the true spirit unless the ordinary man who is not acquainted with the English language can take intelligent interest in the administration. Unless the speeches in the Legislative Councils are delivered in the vernaculars and unless the ordinary administration including justice and orders of Government are conducted through the vernaculars, it is not easy for the ordinary man to take any active interest in the democratic institution, if the administration is carried on through a language with which he is not
11-30 a.m. acquainted. And hence the necessity for the formation of the provinces on the basis of languages. The minor questions connected with finance and with regard to areas where there are two languages commanding equal influence can be investigated later on. I hope that the Local Government will see to it that their views on this matter are definitely expressed on this occasion, and I believe that they will be in favour of dividing this province on a linguistic basis."

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI :—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting this motion, I beg to bring to your notice the following facts. Years ago, when Sir B. N. Sarma moved this question in the then Imperial Legislative Council, before the present Reforms, the then Government representative said that the Government maintained an attitude of benevolent neutrality on this matter. This was, however, one of the acute questions engaging the attention of people in the Andhra country, and they held Andhra conferences purposely to organize this province on a linguistic basis. The formation of Madras Presidency and of the various other provinces in India was based on different considerations after the British Rule began. Some were formed on the basis of conquest, some on the basis of annexation and some others on political grounds, without any regard for the languages of the people within the areas concerned. Thus, the present formation of the provinces was due to various accidents, and was not based upon any logical basis at all. If ever any improvements are to be made in this respect, the only feasible way is to bring together within an area people speaking the same vernacular. No doubt, the argument of Government against it would be on the ground of the cost of administration. Of course various political reforms have to be effected in this country, involving extra expenditure and it must be considered as one of the important instalments of such reforms to divide the country

17th March 1931] [Mr. D. Krishnamurti]

into provinces on a linguistic basis. When you want to democratize the country, so that every tax-payer may understand what is going on in the Government of the country and bring to bear his influence upon it, the only possible way to carry on any such Government is to divide the country on linguistic basis, and to carry on the administration in the vernacular of the people. For instance, let us take the Madras Presidency, where we have got four important vernaculars, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam. If the province is divided on a language basis, the cost of administration would be considerably less in proportion to the area and population of the various smaller units. In supporting this motion moved by Mr. Koti Reddi, I hope the Madras Government will take up this question and press it upon the attention of the Imperial Government in proper time."

* Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar spoke in Tamil as follows:—

"டிமாண்டு VIII விஷயமாய் பாஷைக்குத் தக்கபடி மாகாணத்தை அல்லது ராஜதானியை பிரிக்கவேணுமாய் நமது நண்பர்கள் கூறுகிறார்கள்.

"அந்த விஷயத்தில் எனது அபிப்பிராயம் இடங்கொடுக்கவில்லை. அவைகள் அப்படிச் செய்வதினால் ஏராளமான பணச் சிலவுகள் நேரிடும். ராஜதானியில் பணச் சிலவை குறைக்கவே யோசனை உண்டாகவேண்டியது அவசியம்.

"இதில் கொஞ்சம் கஷ்டம் நமது நண்பர்கள் சொல்வதில் இருக்கலாம். இந்த ராஜதானி கன்னட தேசம், தெலுங்கு தேசங்கள், மலபார், தமிழ் தேசம் இந்த பாஷைகள் பொருந்தியதே. பெரும்பாலும் மலபார் தமிழைச் சார்ந்ததே. இந்த பிராவின்ஸானது தமிழ் பிராவின்ஸே அல்லாது வேறில்லை.

"பல்லாரி, தார்வார், பல்காம், நார்த் கானரா, சவுத் கானரா, கூர்க் இவைகளை கன்னட தேசமாகக் கூறலாம். ஒன்றை பலதாகப் பிரித்தால் சம்பளங்களை குறைந்த தாரணையில் ஏற்படுத்தலாம். என்றாலும் அதின் எல்லா அங்கங்களையும் உண்டாக்க வேண்டிவரும். அப்போது ஏராளமான சிலவிற்கே காரணமாகும். அவசியமானால் அடுத்த மாகணத்துக்கு மெஜாரிடி சேர்க்கையாயிருந்தால் அவைகளில் கன்னட, தெலுங்கு, உறியா தேசம் சேர்க்க ஏதுவாகுமாயென்று யோசிக்கலாம். எது எப்படி இருந்தாலும் நமது நண்பர்களோடு நான் வோட்டு கொடுப்பினும் செலாவணியாகுமெனத் தோன்றவில்லை.

"ஆகையால் நான் என்னுடைய முக்கியஅபிப்பிராயத்தை இதில் தெரிவிக்கிறேன். ஆங்கில பாஷையினால் மட்டும் இந்த மாகாண கௌன்சில் நடைபெறுவது சரியல்லவென்றும் பெரும்பாகம் இம்மாகாணவாசிகள் அபிப்பிராயம் டயார்க்கி வந்த காலம் முதலே இந்த உணர்ச்சியை தெரிவித்திருக்கிறது. இதை நமது அங்கத்தினர்களான கனவான்கள் ஊர்ஜ்ஜிதத்துக்குக் கொண்டுவராத காரணமே இப்பிராவின்ஸை பிரிக்க தோன்றி வந்திருக்கிறது. இந்த கௌன்சில் கவர்னரின் கௌன்சிலாக இருந்து அப்பால் சுமார் 60 கௌன்சில் வரை அதிகமாக்கியதும் அப்பால் 1920-ம் வருஷம் முதல் 120 கௌன்சிலாக்கியதையும் அறிவேன். அந்தந்த கால இயற்கைக்குத் தக்கபடி வந்தது சரியே. இப்போதிய காலத்தில் ப்யூர் (pure) இங்கிலீஷ் பாண்டித்துவம் இருந்தாலொழிய பேசுந்திறமையும் அறியுந் திறமையும் பொருந்துமேயல்லாது அறைகுறை விற்பத்தியும் சொல்பமாக Yes Sir, No Sir, Come on Sir, Excuse Sir, Please Sir, Beg your pardon Sir, I know Sir, Good night, Good-bye Sir, Very well, thanks; Sir, என்று சொல்வதினாலும் கையெழுத்து அல்லது விலாசமோ இங்கிலீஷில் போடுவதினாலும் இங்கிலீஷை தெரியவில்லையே என்று காட்டிக் கொள்ள லஜ்ஜையாகிறது. ஹவுசில் பேசுவது சரியாய் கேட்பதற்கு இப்பால் கருவிகள் அமைத்திருந்

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar] [17th March 1931

தும் பக்கத்தில் தெரிந்தவர்களை பேசுவது கேட்கவில்லையே; என்ன சொல்லுகிறார், என்று சுயபாஷையில் தெரிந்து கொள்வதுமாயிருக்கிறது. அத்தகைய கனவான்கள் சுயபாஷையில் விவகரிக்கும்போது அவர்களது ஞானமும் அனுபவமும் இந்த ஹவுசுக்கு எவ்வளவு உபகரிக்கும், எவ்வளவு உயர்வுக்கு சாதகமாகுமென்பது சந்தேகிக்கக்கூடியதல்ல. அவர்களது ஜீவனோபாயத்தில் அவர்களுக்குத் தோன்றுகிறபடி விலையுள்ள டயத்தை வீணாக்கி இந்த கௌன்சிலுக்கு காலத்தை கொடுப்பது வருந்தத்தக்கது.

"ஒரு மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் என் சம்பந்தமான ஒரு கேசில் கௌரவமான லாயர் ஆஜராகி விவகரிக்கும்பொழுது 'ரெலெவன்ஸி' **relevency** என்றால் என்னயென்று கேட்டார். அவரது இங்கிலீஷில் செய்யும் நடபடிக்கைகள் ஹைகோர்ட்டு வரை வரத்தக்கது. விசேஷ பணச் சிலவு செய்து அறியக்கூடிய ஆங்கில பாஷையை நான் குறைகூறுவதாக நினைக்கப்படாது.

"என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தில் தமிழுக்கு சரியான இங்கிலீஷ் டிரான்ஸ்லேஷன் செய்வது பெரிய ஆனர் வாங்கியவர்களும் யோசனையாய்விடுகிறார்களே யென்பது அறிந்த விஷயம்.

"மலையாளமோ தமிழை ஆதரித்துள்ளது. அதிலிருந்து வந்திருப்பவர்கள் பூரணமாக ஆங்கில ஞானத்தை அடைந்தவர்களாகவும் இந்துஸ்தானிகள் பூரூவும் தமிழே சுயமாயும் இங்கிலீஷும் தேர்ச்சியுள்ளவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். கன்னடம், தெலுங்கில் சிற்சிலர்கள் அவர்களது சுயபாஷையோடு இங்கிலீஷ் தெரிந்தவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே தமிழே விசேஷமாய் தெரியக்கூடியதாயும் இருக்கிறதென்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை.

"எப்படி யிருந்தாலும் 2, 3 பாஷையில் நடபடிக்கை பிரின்டாவதில் இது ஒரு சிலவாக சொல்லப்படாது. அப்படி சொல்பவை சரியான காரணமாயும் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளத்தக்கதில்லை. ஏனெனில், 1920-ம் வருஷத்திலேயே ஒப்பற்றவரும் கிடைக்கக்கூடாதவருமான ஆனரபில் ராஜகோபாலாசாரியாரவர்கள் பிரசிடெண்டு டயத்தில் தமிழுக்கு ஷார்டு ஹாண்டு சாமிநாதய்யரை நியமித்திருந்தார். அப்போது என்னை அன்னியில் என்னைப்போலுள்ள நண்பர்கள் பேச யோசனையா யிருந்தார்கள். அதையுத்தேசித்து அந்த போஸ்டை வெகு நாளைக்குப் பிறகு லாபமாக்கிவிட்டார்கள்.

"சமீபத்தில் வந்திருந்த கனம்பொருந்திய சைமன் கம்மிஷனரவர்கள் இந்து பிராவின்சுக்கு என் அதிகமாக 250 மெம்பர்களாக்கப்படாதென்று யோசித்தார். அப்போது அதை மதுரையில் ஆக்ஷேபித்து சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனாலும், அவர்களது மேநாட்டின் கனவான்களை அறிந்த சுவாபத்தினால் விசாலமான மனதுடையவராகச்சே அவரது ரிப்போர்ட்டில் அதிக மெம்பர் கண்டிருக்கிறதாக அறிகிறேன். அப்படியானால் இந்த ஹவுஸ் புதிதாக வேறே தான் அமைக்க வேண்டிவரும். நேர்ந்தால் யார் யார் வருவார்களென்று இப்பவே எனக்கு தோன்றுகிறது. அப்போது பிரசிடெண்டு அவர்களுக்கு ஆர்டர், ஆர்டர் என்று சொல்ல டயம் கிடைக்குமா என்பதில் சந்தேகிக்கிறேன்.

"இந்த ஆங்கில பாஷையை யான் அறியாவப்புயுத்திற்கு எனது பெற்றோர்கள் கடமையாயினும் எனது தௌர்பாக்கியமே காரணம் என்பதை மிக்க கவலையுடன் தெரிவிக்கிறேன். தெளிவாயும் உண்மையாயும் ஜனங்களின் பிரதிநிதிகளுக்கு தெரியச்செய்யவேண்டியது ராஜ கடமையாகும். அதற்கு இடமில்லாது கொடுத்திருக்கும் சுதந்திரம் போலியாயிருப்பதை சொல்ல தேவையில்லை.

"ஆனரபிள் பிரசிடெண்டு அவர்களும் இதை ஊர்ஜ்ஜிதத்துக்கு நடைபெருத்த அவர்கள் ஆலோசனையோடு சீக்கிரம் கைப்பற்றவேண்டும். ஆகையால் தயவு செய்து தமிழிலும் தெலுங்கு இங்கிலீஷ் பாஷையிலும் அஜெண்டா, கொஸ்சன், ரிசல்யூஷன்களும் பிரிண்டாக வேண்டுமென்றும் ஒவ்வொருவர் ஸ்பீச்சுகளின் முடிவை இரண்டு வார்த்தையில் ரொம்ப சுருக்கமாயும் சங்கிரகமாயும் ஹவுசில் சொல்வதற்கு ஒரு டிரான்ஸ்லேடரையும் அல்லது ஸெக்ரெடரிக்கோ அனுமதி செய்யவேணுமாய் பிரார்த்திக்கிறேன்."

17th March 1931]

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion before the House on behalf of South Kanara. The history of South Kanara is one that would earnestly call for the motion before the House being given effect to by the Government. South Kanara till about 1840 or 1850 was part of North Kanara. But unfortunately on account of the increased assessment which was levied on the district of Kanara, people refused to pay the taxes, and the Government with a strong hand put down that sort of non-co-operation, civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes, which the people of Kanara had recourse to. In order to prevent a recurrence of the same and to weaken the people, they divided Kanara into two parts, North and South, and tacked on North Kanara containing about 10 or 12 taluks to the Bombay Presidency along with Darwar, Belgaum, etc., leaving the smaller part consisting of four or five taluks to the Madras Presidency. And ever since that day till the present day, South Kanara is like a body whose head has been cut off, or rather South Kanara is like a soul which is in search of its body. By tacking South Kanara to the Madras Presidency, we are in the midst of Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam speaking people. South Kanara is a small district containing people with a language and with manners and customs quite special to itself and quite different from those of the other districts in this province, and it has been suffering a lot of inconvenience which has been standing in the way of its union with other Kanarese speaking people and her advancement politically, socially and economically. Such being the case, South Kanara would be very willing to be united to the other Kanarese speaking districts and to form a province by itself. With these few words, I support the motion."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mr. President, Sir, various Members of this House have stood up and expressed themselves very strongly in favour of the motion before the House. In rising to speak on this motion, I should like to make it clear that I am not definitely and positively opposing this motion but only pointing out certain considerations which are germane and relevant for supporting the opposite position. The question of finance has been referred to by various hon. Members and that is a question of compelling importance. But leaving for a moment even that important question aside, I submit to this hon. House certain other considerations which also should be borne in mind in deciding this question. It appears to me that the world is now progressing towards larger and larger combines and unions. Small bodies and small institutions are pooling their resources in order that they may carry on their work more efficiently and more economically. Instead of moving with the spirit of the times, what is now proposed is further division of the province. Let us imagine for a moment that the Madras Province is divided into three or four linguistic areas, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese. That would mean that there would be four small provinces each struggling very hard to balance the Budget instead of one large province dealing with 11-45 a.m.

17th March 1931]

Forests

Assignment of reserved forest area in Omalur taluk.

* 629 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether petitions have been received from the ryots of Omalur taluk in Salem district for the assignment of land in reserved forest area for cultivation; and

(b) if so, with what result?

A.—Petitions have been received from the ryots of Bommidi and adjacent villages for the assignment of 1,045 acres of land in the Mallapuram and Mallapuram Extension reserved forests in the Omalur and Uttangarai taluks of the Salem district. The Government have decided to disforest and assign the area for cultivation. An area of 551 acres has already been disforested and the Board of Revenue has been instructed to take steps for the survey and assignment of that area. The remaining portion will be disforested after the forest department has removed the existing tree growth in the area.

Jails

Appeal by Mr. N. Damodaram for remission of sentence.

* 630 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have remitted a portion of the sentence of two years passed by the Madras High Court in Sessions Case No. 9 on one C. G. Dumaine, and released him; if so, what is the term of sentence thus remitted and for what reasons;

(b) whether the Government are aware that along with C. G. Dumaine, one N. Damodaram was also convicted in the same case for the same term of imprisonment and for the same offence;

(c) whether N. Damodaram has appealed to the Government to remit the unexpired portion of the sentence passed on him;

(d) what orders Government have passed on that petition; and

(e) if the Government have declined to remit the sentence as desired, what are the reasons which influenced the Government to do so, while they have released the co-accused in the said case?

A.—(a) Yes. The portion of the sentence remitted amounted to about one year. The sentence was remitted in view of the old age of Dumaine and the facts, throwing doubt on his guilt, brought to notice in the Judgment in C.S No. 265 of 1928 on the file of the High Court.

(b) Yes, but the evidence against Damodaram was different from that against Dumaine.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government decline to interfere with the sentence passed on him.

17th March 1931]

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, coming as I do from a district where half the population is Kanarese and the other half partly Telugu and partly Kanarese, I submit to the House that the feeling is very strong there that there should be a Karnataka province. I thought that there would be no opposition whatsoever so far as this proposition is concerned. As there is opposition, with the permission of the House I would bring to the notice of hon. Members what happened in this very House two or three years ago. This House on the motion of my Friend, Mr. Siva Rao, carried a proposition that provinces should be formed on a linguistic basis. Sir, from what I gather from the newspapers I believe that at the Round Table Conference also when this question was mooted the general feeling was that the provinces ought to be formed on a linguistic basis. Apart from these considerations, from a practical point of view also, on account of the peculiar condition of the Bellary district, this is a very desirable step. As I said, half the district of Bellary is Kanarese and the other half is partly Kanarese and partly Telugu. So much so, at one time, as probably hon. Members are aware, we were forced to be part of the Andhra University area and then, on our representation that we had nothing in common with the Andhras, we were made part of the Madras University area. And now, I believe there is a proposition coming before the House adding us on again to the Andhra University area. We are taken for a football and kicked from one to the other. To avoid all this, I believe, it is very desirable that the Karnataka province should be formed as early as possible and Bellary shoud be included in that province. Although it may be said that in a small portion of the Bellary district there are Telugu-speaking people, I say that as they know Kanarese also, Bellary may well form part of the Kanarese province. Under these circumstances, I commend this motion for the acceptance of hon. Members."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—" Mr. President, I regret I have to oppose this motion for the simple reason that there are a number of Telugu-speaking people in the Tamil districts and Tamil-speaking people in the Telugu districts. Although my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, is pleading for the formation of a Kanara province, he is neither a Telugu nor a Kanarese. He is coming from Mylapore. Sir, if this splitting up of the Madras Province on a linguistic basis is to be accepted, I seriously suggest that the Tamils in the Telugu districts should be sent back to the Tamil districts and the Telugus in the Tamil districts should also be sent back to the Telugu districts. If this is done, I am glad to say that our district which is educationally backward will have the advantage of getting more funds at the hands of the hon. the Minister for Education. And when the Kanarese province is formed, I do not know where my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar will be, whether at Bellary itself or at Mylapore. I feel very great difficulty in supporting this proposition because our district is neither completely Kanarese nor completely Telugu. It does not consist of people who speak only a particular language. At this stage,

I am unable to see what the financial effect of the splitting up also will be. But if it is going to be done, I strongly urge that the population in each area should be made to consist of people speaking the same language."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" Mr. President, the object of this motion is apparently to express the desire of the House for the division of the province into three or four provinces on a linguistic basis. I gather that some Members want the formation of an Oriya Province and others favour the formation of a Kanarese Province. Others again are in favour of an Andhra Province. Sir, this question of the formation of provinces on a linguistic basis has been considered before now. Hon. Members will remember that the Joint Select Committee on the Government of India Bill made certain observations on one of the clauses of the Bill to the following effect:—

'On the one hand, they do not think that any change in the boundaries of a province should be made without due consideration of the views of the Legislative Council of the province. On the other hand, they are of opinion that any clear request made by a majority of the Members of a Legislative Council representing a distinctive racial or linguistic territorial unit for its constitution under this clause as a sub-province or a separate province should be taken as a prima facie case on the strength of which a commission of inquiry might be appointed by the Secretary of State, and that it should not be a bar to the appointment of such a commission of inquiry that the majority of the Legislative Council of the province in question is opposed to the request of the minority representing such a distinctive territorial unit.'

In the year 1927, the House passed a resolution recommending the formation of a separate Andhra Province and in that same year, in the Legislative Assembly a resolution was moved in favour of placing the Oriya-speaking tracts under one local administration. But that resolution was withdrawn after some discussion. The question of the division of provinces is one which involves various considerations.

12 noon. " It seems to me that the hon. Member who moved this motion and those who have supported his proposals for a division of the province on a linguistic basis were moved largely by sentimental considerations. They do not seem to realize fully the administrative difficulties which will necessarily arise when we divide the province on a linguistic basis. There is also the difficulty of finance. Any province which will be formed newly should be self-supporting and be able to maintain its necessary establishments, and should have also sufficient money for the development of its own nation-building departments. I may suggest that, if there is a general feeling on the part of Members that any particular province should be formed, such as an Oriya Province or an Andhra Province, the better course would be for them to bring forward a resolution to that effect in this House rather than express their opinions by means of a cut motion. This cut motion, if it is passed, will not make it really clear what the opinion of the entire House is. Some Members may be in favour of one province and some may be in favour of another. I would suggest that if any hon.

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

Member thinks that there is a general feeling in the House in favour of formation of an Oriya Province, he may bring forward a resolution which if it is passed may be sent to the Government of India."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju.
2. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
3. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
4. Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi.
5. The Raja of Bobbili.
6. The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
7. Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
8. The Zamindar of Chemudu.
9. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
10. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
11. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu.
12. ,, B. Venkataramayya.
13. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
14. Mr. Yakub Hasan.
15. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.
16. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
17. ,, Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
18. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
19. Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar.
20. ,, A. B. Shetty.
21. ,, G. Simhachalam.
22. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
23. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur.
24. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
25. Rai Bahadur N. Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar.
26. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.
27. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
28. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
29. ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
30. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
31. Mr. J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
32. ,, C. Satyanarayana Choudari.
33. ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
34. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti.
35. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
36. ,, G. Sriramulu.

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell.
4. ,, Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal.
9. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian.
10. ,, H. R. Pate.
11. ,, H. A. Watson.
12. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
13. ,, S. V. Ramamurti.
14. ,, Hilton Brown.
15. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
17. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
18. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
19. ,, M. Devadasan.
20. ,, N. Siva Raj.
21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
22. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
23. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
24. ,, M. S. Sreshta.
25. ,, P. C. Moses.
26. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
27. ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
28. ,, A. Kondappa.
29. ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
30. ,, R. M. Palat.
31. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
32. The Raja of Khallikota.
33. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
34. The Zamindar of Ettayapuram.
35. Mr. Daniel Thomas.
36. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
37. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
38. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
39. Mr. A. T. Luker.
40. ,, F. Birley.
41. ,, R. Foulkes.
42. ,, W. M. Browning.
43. ,, H. Waddington.
44. Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
45. Mr. C. Basu Dev.
46. ,, V. T. Arasu.
47. ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
48. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
49. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
50. Mr. C. Krishnan.

Ayes 36. *Noes* 50.

The motion was lost.

Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved—For Rs. 3,56,100 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—RESERVED

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 2,32,000 *under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved*'."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 2,19,300 *for Legislative Council be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"My object in moving this cut motion is to urge upon the Government the necessity for a larger number of non-official days in the course of every session.

"Sir, we know that in this Council and even in the previous Council we have felt that the number of non-official days for every session have been very small and that it has not been possible for non-official Members of this House, even if they get their motions passed through the ballot, to have an opportunity of getting them discussed in the Council because the number of days that were allotted for non-official business was very limited. If anybody takes into account the number of motions that have been given notice of by hon. Members of this House, he will find that it is only one per cent of these motions that has ever been taken up for consideration in this House. Sir, if it were only for carrying on official business this Council is to meet, I do not think that all the money that is being spent on this Legislative Council is of any avail, because, after all, on matters which are official, non-official Members have only a very very limited power of dealing inasmuch as they can only represent to the Government what their point of view is and cannot make it binding on the Government to take into consideration all that the non-official Members say with regard to the various motions that are brought before the Government. Sir, if it is necessary that non-official Members should make adequate representation of the grievances of the people, it is quite essential that the number of days that are allotted for non-official business should be increased.

"Sir, there are various reasons why the number of non-official days should be increased because we felt during last session that there were important matters of public importance which should be brought before the Government through this Council, and that could not be done. As a matter of fact, it is not also possible for any urgent motion being considered during the Budget session.

"Sir, these are difficulties that are placed in the way of non-official Members in this House. Out of 45 or 50 days that the Council sits

17th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

during a year, I do not think there are more than four or six non-official days during the whole year. So, compared with the number of days that are allotted for official business, the number of days for non-official business is very very small.

"For these reasons, Sir, I plead that the number of days that are allotted for non-official business should be increased."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I may say that the views put forward before this House will be borne in mind by the Government in allotting non-official days in the future."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 2,19,300 for Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

"Sir, the object of my cut motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity of appointing one more Superintendent to the Legislative Council Office. The Legislative Council Office is at present manned by one Superintendent and 13 clerks. This one Superintendent is expected to pass all the papers that the 13 clerks deal with. Because of the enormity of the work in the office I understand that papers relating to questions are now being passed by the Assistant Secretary. Hon. Members of this House would sooner agree with me if they would for a moment turn to the establishment of the other Government Departments working in the Secretariat. In the Chief Secretariat there are four Superintendents for 19 clerks; in the Finance Secretariat there are eight Superintendents for 24 clerks; in the Revenue Secretariat five Superintendents for 22 clerks; in the Development Department there are two Superintendents for 15 clerks; in the Law Secretariat there are seven Superintendents for 31 clerks; in the Public Works Department there are five Superintendents for 22 clerks; and in Local Self-Government Department there are eight Superintendents for 35 clerks. Under these circumstances may I, Sir, suggest the desirability of appointing one more Superintendent to the Legislative Council Office?" 12-15 p.m.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Sir, I beg to second the motion. I may just point out that this department is one of the departments of the Secretariat where there is not even a single Mussalman."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Sir, it has not been brought to the notice of the Government that there is a necessity for another Superintendent. If the Secretary to the Council, Mr. Krishna Ayyar, thinks that another Superintendent is necessary, if he applies to the Government, if he thinks that a Muhammadan candidate is available and if recommendations in that matter are made to the Government, the Government will be prepared to consider the question."

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"Sir, in view of the assurance given by the hon. the Home Member I withdraw the motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

[17th March 1931

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" Sir, I beg to move the motion standing in my name, viz.—

> '*that the allotment of Rs. 2,19,300 for Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

" I wish to know, Sir, what the necessity is for a Standing Counsel and what the reason is for having this Counsel. I want information as to what duties this Standing Counsel is expected to do and how he is to help the President. This seems to be a new appointment."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Sir, I shall give a brief history of this question. At the time of voting of demands in March 1925, Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar moved for the appointment of a Standing Counsel for the hon. the President. The then hon. the Law Member suggested that this question might be considered by a committee. A committee comprised of the representatives of all parties of the House was formed to discuss the question. The Chairman, Mr. M. Ratnaswami, stated that this question was discussed at the Presidents' Conference and as a result of the discussion the conference came to the conclusion that all interests would be served if the President was allowed to consult legal opinion whenever it was necessary and that the Government should undertake to pay for such consultations. The hon. Sir Thomas Moir, the then Finance Member, stated that he could quite understand that situations would arise when it would be inexpedient for the President to rely entirely on the advice of the Leader of the House or of the Advocate-General or the President's Secretary. He could see no financial objection for provision being made in order to enable the President to consult such people as he might think desirable and he was certain that no question would arise as to the propriety of the President's action on such occasions. He added that it should be made clear that the President retained his discretion of using any of the sources which were at present available to him. The hon. the Law Member emphasized the remark of the hon. the Finance Member that the President should not rule out the possibility of consulting the ordinary machinery open to him. A provision is made in the Budget each year on this account."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved—For Rs. 2,32,000 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,38,23,900 under Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved*'."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, I beg to move the following motion, viz.—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats, be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" There are two reasons, Sir, why I want to raise this question of the consideration of our financial condition and our commitments. One is the depression through which we have been passing through last year and which, so far as we can see, is likely to continue for another year or two at least. This depression is not special to India; all over the world there is this depressed condition. Trade is at a low ebb; prices are very low and the condition of labour also is very difficult. The question of unemployment is looming large in almost every country. In India the question of unemployment does not appear to be so acute as it is in other countries for the simple reason that we do not keep any statistics of unemployment; even in the best of times, employment is not very regular here. In agriculture especially, it is well known that employment is only a matter of temporary shift. In a condition like this, when the whole world is affected and when every country is taking stock of its revenues, of its available resources and of its expenditure, I think it is necessary that we, in India also, should do the same. It is absolutely necessary that we should not be caught napping and that we should not find ourselves in a difficult situation without being prepared for it. That, Sir, is the first argument.

" Secondly, the new Reforms are looming large before us and we are preparing ourselves for it. Before we enter into the new state of responsible government, it is necessary that we should make a proper examination of our available resources and our commitments; we should know where exactly we stand. When the old order of things under which the bureaucracy was managing things—I am not using that term in any bad sense—and we had dictation of policy from above—is going to yield place to the new order of things under which the direction will come from below and the policy will be settled by the democracy, we ought really to know where we stand, what our available resources are at the present moment, what are our commitments and what is the policy we can initiate with regard to important subjects like elementary education or total prohibition. We have to know whether we can afford to undertake such schemes. These are matters about which we ought to have information, definite information. So, it seems to me that this is the proper time when a special committee should be appointed to examine our resources, our expenditure and our commitments.

" Not only that; after this Council came into existence, we have been dealing with the salaries, allowances and other matters rather in a haphazard fashion. I know very well that a Retrenchment Committee was appointed in the year 1923 and it was asked to go elaborately into the question of allowances and to formulate its proposals. I find, Sir, that the proposals of this committee have not been always adhered to. A large number of exemptions and new ideas have been introduced

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931

into the question of allowances, so that the time is come to examine anew these matters. In fixing the salaries of officers in the various departments, we have not been going on on any settled principles. Unfortunately there are services over whose pay and allowances we have no control. We have no power to fix the pay of some Imperial Services to which recruitment is made by the Secretary of State for India. The complaint about the very high scale that was fixed by the Secretary of State on the recommendation of the Lee Commission has been rather a standing one. Unfortunately we cannot raise that question in this Council; we cannot ask for enquiry about the scale of salary and allowances fixed for these Imperial Services. This has to be done elsewhere. But at the same time we feel at times the difficulty of doing the right thing with regard to persons whose salary can be fixed by this Council; the weakness or difficulty is due to a large extent to the fact that the scale of salaries and allowances which have been fixed for the Imperial Services by the Secretary of State is very high. It has been argued, ' if these Imperial Services are going to get such high salaries and allowances, why not poor Indians who have been appointed and who are doing the same work get the same salaries or something near those salaries '. That is the sort of argument that has been advanced; as I said, many of us have been weak in the past in dealing with this question. I submit, Sir, that the whole matter has to be looked at from a proper standpoint, from a new angle of vision, and from the justice of the case, justice not only to the officers who are appointed but also to the tax-payer, the man who works hard day in and day out and who finds the money for expenditure by the Government. We have to fix the salaries and allowances of a number of officers in various departments not merely in consonance with what the Secretary of State might have done in the case of one set of officers, but also with reference to the capacity of the tax-payer who has to find all the money, whether he can afford it, whether the poor country can afford to pay the high scale of salaries, and whether we require the present number of officers. That is the sort of question which we will have to consider. In fixing the salaries of officers, we have not been following any definite principle. Last year, I referred to two clear cases; there were two sets of officers appointed in the Education Department and in the Agricultural department. For both the services the same qualifications are necessary. If research officers are appointed in the Agricultural department, they ought to be paid, if anything, better. That being the case, one should have thought that the scales of salaries of the two departments would be fixed with reference to the requirements of the cases; if there is to be any advantage, it should be in favour of the Agricultural officer.

12-30 p.m. " But what do we find? We find that the Agricultural officers are placed in a certain scale which has got no sort of relation to the scale fixed for officers in the Education Department, which is practically the scale previously fixed for Imperial officers. That is to say, if we take both the services separately, the Educational officers are in the Imperial Service while the Agricultural officers are in the Provincial

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

Service—I am speaking only with reference to pay—but the qualifications required of these two sets of officers are practically the same, or if anything, they ought to be better in the case of the Agricultural officers. I am giving only an example of what is obtaining in regard to services in so many departments. That is not a fair state of things at all. We ought to have some settled principles with regard to these services. All the Provincial services should be treated more or less on a footing of equality. We require the same sort of officers, for instance, in the Revenue Department and the Survey department where outdoor work is necessary. In other cases, where research work is necessary, we can have people who have been trained in the University and are fitted for such work. Simply because one man by accident enters one department rather than another, his pay and allowances should not be different. It is high time that the Government fixed a uniform scale of pay for all the Provincial services and also specified any special appointments for which they want special salaries to be fixed. One can understand that, but that is not what is going on. This is another point which we will have to enquire into.

"In all these matters, we must take into consideration the present state of our country, the scale of pay given in other countries, the requirements of the situation and things like that. We all see daily in the papers that this question is being raised in all countries, and that the scale of pay attached to officers is very much lower in many countries than what it is here in India. Comparison is often made between the pay given in an advanced country like Japan and that given here, and it is said that the scale of pay fixed in Japan is very much lower than what obtains here in India. It is often argued—and with very good reasons—that there is absolutely no necessity to keep up salaries at this high level.

"Then again, the number of officers of the various departments who go into the villages individually has become very large; and investigation is absolutely necessary into the reasons why so many officers of so many departments should go into the villages. In the old days, there was only one department, the Revenue Department, which either directly or indirectly was responsible for the whole administration of the village in any branch—sanitation, education, labour or local board work. The Revenue Department officials were then doing their work efficiently, and I do not think there were so many complaints in those days as we have now. Nowadays, we have more than a dozen sets of officers going into the village, and each of them has to obtain the usual mamul and the village people have to look to all his conveniences; and if anybody thinks that he has not been properly treated, immediately there will be a number of prosecutions for some reason or another. There may be, for instance, prosecutions for non-vaccination in one village, although in the next village there may be a large number of children not vaccinated. But if you want to know the reason for such prosecutions, you will have to find it elsewhere. Is it not possible to do something to avoid—not duplication or triplication, but—this multiplication of officers who are doing work in the villages? Even after

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931

this multiplication of officers, we find that the old officers who were doing duty in all drections and who have since been relieved of most of such duties, still continue. For instance, there were 21 Collectors formerly with the usual number of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars; but even after the multiplication of officers and after these people were relieved of much of their work, we find that there has been no reduction in the number of districts, the number of divisions and the number of tahsildarships. On the other hand, we see that the number of collectorships has increased, the number of divisions has increased and the number of tahsildarships has also increased and we find a large number of officers doing work which is less than half of what it used to be in the old days. The Divisional Officer in the old days was also a Taluk Board President, and the Divisional Officer was then attending to many other works; he was helping the other departments and the work of the other departments had to go through him. We have now got a Labour Officer who has nothing to do with the Divisional Officer; we have a Minor Irrigation Officer who has nothing to do with the Divisional Officer, and we have so many other officers who have nothing to do with the Divisional Officer—and yet we have still got the Divisional Officer there. When we proposed some time ago that some of the districts might be abolished, districts like Chittoor, Madras and Nilgiris, which people were able to prove there was no necessity for, the Government said: ' You are partly correct no doubt, but it is difficult to abolish them '. I ask, where is the necessity for a Collector at Madras; what is his work, Sir? It is rather difficult to understand what sort of work is done by a Collector at Madras. He has practically no lands to look after; at any rate, what land he has got is so small that it can be attended to by the Collector at Saidapet quite easily. I for one do not see any reason for a Collector at Madras. Similarly, the Collector in the Nilgiris seems to me to be there more for attending to the Government House than anything else. The area which he has got under his command is very small and the work which he does—except perhaps for anything which the Government House may give him—is not very much. The Wynad can be easily attached to the Malabar and the rest of the Nilgiris district which will be only about a taluk and a half, may be added on to the Coimbatore district. There is absolutely no need for a Collector in the Nilgiris. Not only has there been a multiplication of officers in this way, but there has been multiplication in another way. In the same department, for instance, where there are two officers, an intermediary officer has been appointed to supervise the work of the lower one and to be responsible to the higher one. We have been raising objections in season and out of season to this system of appointing supervising officers. A most notorious example of this is the Revenue Board. Two resolutions were passed in this very Council asking for the abolition of the Revenue Board. Nothing but a lot of delay is caused by the existence of this board and it is doing no good whatever. There is no need for a Revenue Board to interpose between the Government and the Collectors. In other departmets too, the position is no better—in fact it is much worse. If you take the

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

Engineering department, you have the Superintending Engineer, who is an intermediary officer; you take the Police department, there you have the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. Take the Forest department; there again is the Conservator of Forests. In every department you find the same policy of having officers between the district officer and the headquarter officer. Is there any need for them when we have so many departments? I for one should think that there is no need for the existence of these intermediary officers, and this is one of the questions which will have to be investigated.

"These are some of the questions, Sir, which will have to be considered by a committee to be appointed and it will take a pretty long time. Wherever the Committee recommends that there should be a change of policy or that there should be retrenchment, it ought to be carefully examined and if possible be given effect to. I have already said that ours is a poor country, where the average income of the ordinary man is only about Rs. 72 according to Professor Slater."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Rs 36 according to others."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar:—"According to others it is lower, but I would take the figure of a E/uropean Professor of Economics holding the position he did. He said that the average income of a man in the village in this Presidency is about Rs. 72 a year. In spite of that and in spite of our present depressed condition, we are paying very large salaries to our officers and we are employing a very large number of officers, out of all proportion to the requirements of the province. The question of our resources also is bound up with the way in which we spend our income; and whether we are utilizing our resources in the best possible manner is also a question which should be considered. It may of course be a matter of policy to be decided by the Ministers and Executive Councillors concerned; but it is also a matter for examination by the Retrenchment Committee to find out whether there is any waste. There are ways, Sir, in which waste can be avoided.

"Even granting that the question of salaries and allowances is alright, there is the question of contingencies which covers a multitude of sins. What that word 'contingency' exactly means, it is not always easy to say. Very often, a number of things are included in it for which it will be very difficult to find justification. I do not want to go further into the matter as I think I have made out a good case for the appointment of a committee on the grounds firstly, that we are in a very depressed condition at the present moment, secondly that conditions in a poor country like India are not comparable to those in rich countries like England, and thirdly, that we are going to enter shortly into a new era of Responsible Government, at the beginning of which it is absolutely necessary that we should know where we stand. I therefore beg to move the motion standing in my name, with a view to press on the Government the necessity for the appointment of a strong but small committee which will sit for a sufficiently long time, go into all these matters and submit an exhaustive report."

[17th March 1931

12-45 p.m. * Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think it is high time that we take up this question of retrenchment in hand and set our financial position aright. We have seen during the general discussion of the Budget how the opening balances have been dwindling from year to year, and how our Budgets have not been balanced and that for a series of years we have been having deficit Budgets.

" Now, Sir, even though the provincial contribution of $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores had been remitted, we have not had either reduction of taxes or any substantial money being spent on nation-building departments. It has been conceded that we cannot derive any further amount from land revenue, as that has reached the topmost level. Added to these facts, this year we are passing through an acute economic depression and our administration is top-heavy as compared with other western countries and it has no parallel at all. Even in countries like England, Australia and Canada, the salaries of officers are not so high as those obtaining in India. Imagine that the highest paid-officer in the whole world is the Viceroy of India and just look at the average income of India in comparison with other countries. The average income of an Indian is very low when compared to that of the people of other countries. That being so, why should we adopt such a high-level of salaries, I want to know.

" Of late, even in countries like Canada and Australia, on account of the economic depression, the Government officials have voluntarily given up a percentage of their salaries. I think it is in Australia that they have given up about 10 per cent of their salaries and coming nearer home, in the Central Provinces, the hon. Ministers have reduced their salaries by nearly 50 per cent. Therefore, I urge that Government should now seriously take in hand this question of retrenchment and cut drastically the salaries of officials drawing a thousand and over and also put an end to redundant offices like that of the Board of Revenue and other establishments mentioned by my hon. Friend, the Mover of the cut motion. If you are going to appoint a retrenchment committee and pre-determine not to give effect to the recommendations of that Committee, for God's sake, don't appoint such a Committee at all, but if you are really sincere about giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee which you are going to appoint, then the sooner you appoint that Committee the better for us. Further, Sir, we have to face still more serious times; when the new Reforms are ushered in, our responsibilities will be greater and it therefore behoves the hon. the Finance Member that he should not leave a very undue burden to his successor. He must see that the financial condition of the province is bettered."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, this motion requires no elaborate argument to commend it to the acceptance of the House. In spite of the increase of revenue—though it is not very much—and in spite of the windfall of the remission of the provincial contribution of $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores, we have seen that the cost of the

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

administration has been growing, so much so that in this year we are not able even to balance the Budget. Local rates were raised, first by the Act of 1920 and secondly court-fees and stamp duties were increased. Yet by the recent Acts passed last year, all these are insufficient to produce enough income. It is impossible to go on any longer in the same state. There might have been occasions for the multiplication of offices previously. I may here give one or two instances. When the income-tax work was done by the district authorities, as also local boards work, there was necessity for the multiplication of offices and increase in the number of officers and even for the division of big districts into two districts. It is time that a scrutiny takes place in order to see whether a combination of offices or a redistribution of official charges is not feasible. It would, no doubt, be difficult to suggest an offhand remedy, but careful investigation may be effectively achieved. Therefore, it is necessary that the whole question should be examined by an expert committee which will go into all these things in order to see that the cost of the administration is not unnecessarily kept up at a high level. That the House feels keenly will be obvious from the fact that during the general discussion Member after Member belonging to all the sections of this House urged the necessity for retrenchment. The Government of India also have taken steps in that direction. It may be said that there are certain offices which are beyond the province of the provincial Government in the matter of pay and emoluments, but if the Government move in the matter with the previous concurrence of the Government of India, and if enquiries are made by co-ordinated action between the two Governments, it may be possible to effect retrenchment even in regard to such appointments. It is therefore absolutely essential that this question should be taken up as early as possible, so that we may save a lot of money for more useful purposes.''

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—'' Mr. President, Sir, I am very happy to be in a position to support the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. The importance of the motion which is brought up for consideration in this House cannot easily be overrated. The present stress of financial conditions, the world-wide depression in trade and agriculture and various other factors have combined to create a position of financial difficulty, which perhaps within living memory is unparalleled. Added to these, we are face to face with a great change in the constitution of the Government of our country and of our province. I do not think any hon. Member of this House will disagree with me when I say that public economy should be the chief cornerstone of the edifice of Provincial and National Autonomy. It has been urged time and again that the citizens of this country should cultivate a sense of public spirit and a sense of just proportion, but I would submit that the sense of public spirit and the sense of just proportion are as much necessary and as much requisite for Governments as for individuals. Unless Governments and those who are in authority in governmental matters develop and exercise an almost sacred sense of

12-45 p.m. * Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I think it is high time that we take up this question of retrenchment in hand and set our financial position aright. We have seen during the general discussion of the Budget how the opening balances have been dwindling from year to year, and how our Budgets have not been balanced and that for a series of years we have been having deficit Budgets.

"Now, Sir, even though the provincial contribution of $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores had been remitted, we have not had either reduction of taxes or any substantial money being spent on nation-building departments. It has been conceded that we cannot derive any further amount from land revenue, as that has reached the topmost level. Added to these facts, this year we are passing through an acute economic depression and our administration is top-heavy as compared with other western countries and it has no parallel at all. Even in countries like England, Australia and Canada, the salaries of officers are not so high as those obtaining in India. Imagine that the highest paid-officer in the whole world is the Viceroy of India and just look at the average income of India in comparison with other countries. The average income of an Indian is very low when compared to that of the people of other countries. That being so, why should we adopt such a high-level of salaries, I want to know.

"Of late, even in countries like Canada and Australia, on account of the economic depression, the Government officials have voluntarily given up a percentage of their salaries. I think it is in Australia that they have given up about 10 per cent of their salaries and coming nearer home, in the Central Provinces, the hon. Ministers have reduced their salaries by nearly 50 per cent. Therefore, I urge that Government should now seriously take in hand this question of retrenchment and cut drastically the salaries of officials drawing a thousand and over and also put an end to redundant offices like that of the Board of Revenue and other establishments mentioned by my hon. Friend, the Mover of the cut motion. If you are going to appoint a retrenchment committee and pre-determine not to give effect to the recommendations of that Committee, for God's sake, don't appoint such a Committee at all, but if you are really sincere about giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee which you are going to appoint, then the sooner you appoint that Committee the better for us. Further, Sir, we have to face still more serious times; when the new Reforms are ushered in, our responsibilities will be greater and it therefore behoves the hon. the Finance Member that he should not leave a very undue burden to his successor. He must see that the financial condition of the province is bettered."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, this motion requires no elaborate argument to commend it to the acceptance of the House. In spite of the increase of revenue—though it is not very much—and in spite of the windfall of the remission of the provincial contribution of $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores, we have seen that the cost of the

years the work done by the Inspecting Tahsildars was actually done by the Revenue Department. I believe nothing calamitous had happened during that interval. For reasons best known to the Government, the system of Inspecting Tahsildars has again been revived. As a matter of fact, the private owner of the various survey numbers will certainly take very good care that his neighbour does not encroach upon his field and that each of the survey numbers in his fields is marked by well-defined boundary stones.

"Sir, the only place where protection may be needed for preserving these survey stones will be where Government porambokes abut on private lands, where only there is any possibility of a private landowner encroaching on Government lands. I think instead of undergoing recurring expenditure on an establishment like that of the Inspecting Tahsildars with all their retinues, it would be far cheaper if some permanent landmarks are put up. Sir, I believe these Inspecting Tahsildars and their establishment create a rub or serve to create division in the harmonious working of the village administration by exercising a certain kind of independent control over village officers, which is not in co-ordination with the work of regular Tahsildars. I am giving this instance only with the view that Government may consider the desirability of reverting to the old system, i.e., the work of the Inspecting Tahsildars being done by the Revenue Department. I think then the work will be smoothly done and obviously it will be cheaper also. 1 p.m.

"Similarly it may be possible to find out various posts and various other small sections of departments which might be abolished without any detriment to the efficient administration of the country.

"The next thing I wish to refer to is the wasteful expenditure in Government departments. We know as a matter of experience, taking for instance the department of Public Works, the rates which are offered by Government for carrying out buildings are much higher than what a private individual will pay for doing that same piece of work. And very often he carries out the same work in a much better way. I know cases in my own district where things have been done, then undone and once again re-done. In the case of a certain hospital, originally it was tiled, then the tiling was considered to be bad and so the tiles were pulled down, and instead of that the building was terraced. It was then found that the terracing was badly done, as it began to leak in the rainy season, and so once again fresh expenditure had to be incurred for the purpose of setting this state of affairs right. I am only giving this one instance to show how public money is being wasted. I submit that a greater sense of public economy in incurring expenditure and in carrying out public works should certainly be engendered. Again, for instance, my hon. Friend was referring to the various new departments that have been created in the districts, and he also pointed out that whereas this creation of new departments have resulted in the diminution of work of the regular officers,

[Mr. Daniel Thomas] [17th March 1931

still, as a matter of fact, the number of these officers is always on the increase year after year, and it shows no signs of stopping at all. We know, Sir, as a matter of fact, that for the last several years, for instance, civil litigation is on the decline, and the number of suits filed in civil courts is going down year by year. And yet we find the number of civil courts is steadily on the increase. Sub-courts, additional sub-courts and temporary additional sub-courts and so on, that is the order of the day.

"The last item that has been referred to is the question of pay, i.e., the salaries and allowances of the officers in public service. Sir, as I said at the outset, public spirit is expected as much from the public servant as from the private citizen. What generally happens is that when it comes to a question of expending Government money, everybody, both Government servants and private citizens, join together and each tries to get as much sum as he could by way of salaries, travelling allowances contingencies, etc. So that, actuated to-day by that spirit, our brown brethren are competing with their white brethren in the matter of getting increased salaries, increased travelling allowances and increased contingencies, etc. Sir, I believe this sort of spirit will spell disaster to the country and to our future Government. I would therefore submit that in view of the various considerations which have been pointed out by hon. Members it is absolutely necessary that we should take stock of our present situation, that we should take stock of our resources and see in what all possible ways we can effect retrenchment. That, I say, is a necessary preparation for the future well-being of constitutional Reforms and provincial autonomy in this province."

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion to call the attention of Government to the large sums of money given to their officers under the guise of allowances, and I want to point out the waste and extravagance that is prevailing at present in several departments of Government under this head. We see, for instance, a man drawing a pay of over Rs. 1,000 every month, and side by side with that we see him also drawing an allowance of Rs. 250 for doing no extra work. I ask why should this allowance be given? Is not the salary that he is already drawing sufficient? Does he not live on his pay?

"Then, Sir, we see in the papers every Legislative Council in India passing a cut motion for effecting retrenchment. Only the other day we saw Mr. MacWatters' statement in the Council of State promising to appoint a Retrenchment Committee. But we don't see the Madras Government moving in that direction. Then, we see the South Indian Railway Company and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company cutting down their expenditure. I saw in the papers that the South Indian Railway Company is going to reduce its expenditure by 36 lakhs of rupees. But in the case of the Madras Government, I see further posts are to be created. We see in Bombay the house allowances of various officers have been cut down. There was a resolution in the Assam Legislative Council that there should be a cut of over 50

per cent in the salary of all officers from that of His Excellency the Governor downwards. The hon. the Finance Member in his speech said that the amount that is paid by way of salary to the higher grade officials is about 174 lakhs, out of which the All-India Civil Service officers in the province take about 88 lakhs of rupees, which is non-votable. Then, we have 86 lakhs of rupees to pay to officers drawing a monthly salary of over Rs. 250. He said that if we were to effect retrenchment we could cut down the salary of these latter officers only. Now, if there is a 50 per cent cut, there will be a clear saving of 43 lakhs of rupees, and that will do away with the deficit Budget with which we are now struggling. And further, with this amount though it may not be possible to have teetotalism in the country, still a beginning may be made towards that end.

"Now since the salary of the All-India Service officers is non-votable, I would submit to Government that they should have as few of such officers as possible and that their policy should be to have as large a number of Provincial Service men as possible. For instance, Sir, we have three or four All-India Service officers in the Board of Revenue and we cannot touch their salary at all. So what I would submit to Government is that the sooner we reduce to a minimum the recruiting of All-India Civil Service officers the better it will be for the country. If we adopt that policy, we can utilize the surplus money in starting prohibition in the country and spend more money on education and hospitals which at present are under a great handicap for want funds. Sir, with these remarks I resume my seat."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I welcome the motion that is before the House and especially the three-fold objects of the proposed committee. Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has given a very comprehensive motion, for it not only deals with the question of retrenchment but also with the question of commitments and with the question of resources. I will take the question of resources first.

"The hon. the Finance Member in moving his Budget this year, as also his predecessor in office, expressed very strongly as regards the inelastic character of the revenues of our province; and it therefore behoves us, the Members of this House, to go into the question of finding new sources of revenue if possible. My own opinion, with which I am sure hon. Members would agree, is that the tax-payer is already burdened to the utmost of his capacity. Sir, even though the hon. the Finance Member may be optimistic in expecting an increase of 50 lakhs in this year's Budget, I beg to submit that I do not see eye to eye with him in that. For, I am sure the time will come when he will be disillusioned and his expectations falsified. I fear that at the end of the year there will be a deficit of not 9 lakhs, as has been anticipated by him, but 20 or 25 lakhs.

"Then, as regards the question of resources, I wish to draw the attention of hon. Members to the statement of Sir George Schuster in his Budget speech. As regards the resources of the country even the Imperial Financier is of opinion that the tax-paying capacity of the

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1931

Indian has reached its limit; and that if new sources of revenue have to be looked for, it must be achieved only by improving the economic productivity of the citizen. Now with regard to the question of the economic productivity of the citizen, the same Imperial Financier has also made a statement, which I am sure hon. Members would have gone through carefully. He says that in order to improve the economic productivity of the citizen, the main responsibility is cast, not on the Imperial Government, but on the Provincial Government. In view of that statement, I wish to ask the Government a plain question as to what is being done by them to raise the economic productivity of the citizen.

1-15 p.m. "That brings me again to the question of nation-building services and nation-building industries and movements to be taken up on hand. When we as representatives of the people of this Presidency in this House make any proposal for the development of national industries, we are met with the short answer, 'financial limitations'. One main ground for the appointment of this Committee is that of retrenchment in order to find money for the starved nation-building activities of the Presidency. Now, Sir, I shall leave the question of resources at that stage and pass on to the question of the need for retrenchment.

"When one has noted carefully hon. Members of this House one after another rising up in their places and emphasizing the importance of retrenchment while considering the budget or while offering remarks on the budget that has been presented and when also one considers the fact that only the other day an influential and numerically strong number of signatures have been obtained to a motion or to a resolution to be moved in this House for the appointment of a Retrenchment Committee, I feel, Sir, that any attempt on my part to convince the House of the need of such a Committee would be like carrying coals to Newcastle. I will just mention one or two facts which have already been mentioned no doubt in a way by my predecessors who spoke on this motion, which will bring home to the hon. Members of this House the character of the administration and the heavy expenditure that we are incurring on the administration of our province. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to the earning capacity of an Indian. He put it at the figure of Rs. 72 *per capita* if I remember aright. At the same time it must also be borne in mind that the figure of the earning capacity of the Indian has been put down at a much lower level by persons who have worked on that question and it has been put down at Rs. 27 per head per year. Now, when you consider the earning capacity of an Indian and when you consider the earning capacity of an inhabitant of Japan or of England, you will be astonished to find that the cost of administration or the pay of officers in India bears no comparison, bears no proportion whatsoever to the average income of an Indian. In India, Sir, as I told you, according to certain persons, the average income stands at Rs. 27 and according to others at Rs. 72 per head; you may take it any way you like. In

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

Japan the average income of a person is Rs. 294. In England the average income is Rs. 1,319 *per capita* per year; in the United States it is Rs. 1,760 *per capita* per year. And yet you have this feature in the Indian Government that the salaries bear no proportion whatever to the actual income *per capita* of an Indian when compared with the salaries paid in other countries where the average income is not only ten times in some countries but in some cases it is even fifty times more than what it is in India. For instance, take England. The Members of the Cabinet in England are paid £5,000 per annum. Considering the average income of a person in England which is as high as Rs. 1,319, and the average income in India which stands at Rs. 27 *per capita*, we find the same spectacle, the same feature repeating itself in the Indian administration, namely, that Cabinet Members of Government of the provinces are paid over Rs. 5,000 per mensem and Cabinet Members of the Imperial Government are paid over Rs. 6,000 per mensem.

"Now, Sir, there is also another reason why a Retrenchment Committee should be appointed at the earliest possible date. We have of late a competition, so to speak, for the creation of new appointments. Not only new appointments have been created but new departments have been brought into existence. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, described how these new departments are being created and worked. If I may just add a simile to that these new creations look like concentric circles which follow one after another but never meet, one department doing the work done by other departments over and over again. Like concentric circles they go round and round and do not meet. At times there has been a waste of public money upon the creation of new appointments and new departments which do not function in co-ordination. The task of co-ordinating the activities of various departments is one which must seriously engage the attention of the Retrenchment Committee. Sir, I would only again invite the attention of this House to Sir George Schuster's remarks on the question of retrenchment. Even the Simla gods have felt the necessity for retrenchment and the Imperial Financier has accepted in a sense that retrenchment is very essential, but he only warns us that retrenchment so far as the Imperial Services are concerned will not be possible for the present. And he says that retrenchment in the sense of increasing the taxes paid by the Imperial Services could be brought in by taking the higher incomes of the Imperial Services. However, that is the halting way in which the Members of these privileged superior services are asked to contribute to the exchequer. Leaving apart that question, Sir George Schuster also pointed out the necessity for a Retrenchment Committee, and he hopes to constitute one shortly to consider the position of the Imperial Services. Whatever may be our impotency as regards the Imperial Services for the present to alter the terms of the contracts under which they are recruited, we must have a Retrenchment Committee either Provincial or Imperial which must see that the terms of the contracts under which officers of the Imperial services are recruited are modified greatly so

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1931

as to suit the needs of the country and the money that we can afford to pay for such services. I am sure the Retrenchment Committee will bear that in mind.

"So far as the Provincial Services are concerned, we are in a better or a happier position, because the Provincial Services are under the control of this House, and when we are discussing a motion like this, I would ask you to remember the fact that the conditions of living have greatly changed for the better. We are now having cheaper prices, and bearing that in view I would ask this Honourable House in supporting the motion that has been moved for the appointment of a committee to demand that, so far as these Provincial Services are concerned, a bold step may be taken to cut down the cost of the administration. Such a step is essential, and I do not think we are a day too soon in supporting this cut motion. For very soon the new Reforms may be ushered in, reforms under which if we want to do any good and real service to the people, we must embark upon large nation-building activities for which, if we are not to be content with the rate of progress that we are having at present, we cannot find any finances. With these few remarks, I would urge upon the House the necessity of supporting a harmless but a highly necessary motion like the one now under discussion for the appointment of a committee to consider the question of financial commitments, the question of resources and the question of retrenchment."

Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"10-வது டிமாண்டைப்பற்றி பலசங்கதிகளை சொல்லியிருப்பதில் விஷயம் ஒன்றுதான் முக்கியம் அதாவது சம்பளங்களை குறைத்தல். இதில் அநேகர்கள் கொடுத்துள்ள விஷயங்கள் பிரஸிடெண்டவர்கள் கொடுத்திருக்கும் டயத்துக்குள் பேச எடுப்பார்களென்று தோணவில்லை.

"எப்படியும் அவசியம் குறைக்கவேண்டுவது என்பதைப்பற்றி பல புத்திமான்கள் பேசியதிலிருந்து அவைகள் முடிவுக்குவருவது சந்தேகமாயிருந்தால் நிக்ஷயமாக. இந்த கீழ்கண்டகாரணங்களையாவது தாங்கள் கவனிக்கும்படி வற்புறுத்துகிறேன்.

"ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பினர்களும் உத்தியோகமே வேணுமென்று சதா விரும்புவதிலிருந்து தங்கள் தொழில் அல்லது வேரு விதமாக தங்கள் காலக்ஷேபமார்க்கங்களைப் பார்க்கிலும் உத்தியோக வரும்படியே அதிக உயர்வாக இருப்பதினாலே எல்லா வகுப்பினர்களும் போட்டியாகிறார்களென்று அறிந்து சம்பளத்தை குறைக்க எண்ணப்படாதா ?

"பதார்த்த விலைகள் கிராக்கியாய் வருவதை ஒரு காரணமாக வைத்து 1920-ம்௵ முதலே இஷ்டப்படி சம்பளங்களை உயர்த்தி வந்திருப்பதை இப்போது பதார்த்தம் வாங்குவாரின்றி மலிவடைந்து இருக்கும் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில்கூட உலகத்தார்களபிப்பிராயத்தை எடுத்துக் கையாளப்படாதா ?

"அநேக காலம் சண்டைபோட்டு யாசகம் வாங்கிய இந்தியா கவர்ன்மெண்டு டுனேசன் மூணே சொச்சம் கோடியும் மற்றும் அதிகமாக்கிய ஸ்டாம்பு டூட்டி என்ன, புதிய லோக்கல் போர்டு முதலிய வரிகள் என்ன எல்லாம் அடிப்படுப் பட்ஜெட் டெபிசெட்டில் தயாராகும்போது இந்த சமயம் என் கவனிக்கப்படாது ? மா விருந்தால்தான் தாராளமாக ரொட்டி செய்யலாம்.

17th March 1931] [Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

"முக்கியமாக இந்த தருணத்தில் ஒரு கனவான்களும் இதையாவது விரும்பப்படாதா ? அதாவது (1) என்கிரிமென்டு, (2) ரிட்ரார்ஸ்பெக்டிவ் எபெக்டு கொடுப்பது, (3) டைம்ஸ்கேல், (4) அலவன்சு இவைகளையாவது பூரு நிருத்திவிடப்படாதா ?

"சம்பளத்தை குறைக்க கமிட்டி தேவை. ஆனல் நியமிக்கும் விதத்தினல் உத்தியோக அபேக்ஷை எதிர் நோக்கமுறியவர்களை நியமிப்பதில் என்ன பிரயோஜனம் கிடைக்கும், அவர்கள் மேலெழுதுபவர்களை கீழே ஆதரிப்பதாக சயன் செய்யவேண்டியவரும்.

"கலெக்டர் ஆளுகையைப்பற்றி அவரது வேலை என்ன என்பதும் இன்னும் மற்றவிதமான கேள்விகளும் இந்த டிமாண்டில் கேட்டிருப்பவைகளை நான் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. பொருப்பில்லாது எழுதியுள்ளவைகளாக நினைக்கிறேன். ஆனல் கலெக்டர் பெர்மனெண்டு ரெவின்யூ சம்பந்தமன்னியில் மற்றய நடவடிக்கையில் ஜில்லாவுக்கு தகுந்தபடி கௌரவம் பொருந்தியவர்களை ஒரு சிறிய கூட்டமாக ஓர் அட்வைஸரி கமிட்டியாக எற்பாடு செய்தால் கலெக்டர் ஆளுகையானது ரொம்பவும் திருப்திகரமாயும் திறமையாகவும் இருக்குமென்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. புதிதாகவரும் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் கலெக்டர்கள்கூட சந்தேகமின்றி நடைபெருத்த எதுவாகும்.

"ஆண்ரபிள் மிஸ்டர் ருமலிங்கம் செட்டியாரவர்கள் கண்டிஞ்சென்சியைப் பற்றி சொல்லியது அவ்வளவு பிசகுக்குரியதல்ல. பெரும்பாகம் வவுச்சர்களைப் பொருத்ததே."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-35 p.m.)

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"The hon. the Finance Member in his speech introducing the Budget has given us an idea of what he considers to be the need for retrenchment which everyone in this House urged in the present economic condition of the Presidency. In his Budget speech a very tardy recognition of the need for retrenchment has been made by the hon. the Finance Member. He says up to now we have not considered it necessary to set on foot investigations into the possibility of a general retrenchment in expenditure. He admits that the provincial sources of revenue are either stationary or declining. The three chief sources of revenue in this province, are Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps and there is very little chance of our increasing the revenue in the three important sources of revenue. In regard to Land Revenue it has been very well shown in this House that if the present prices of the chief commodities of this province continue, there is very little chance of the Government getting any more revenue, in fact, it may be reduced. With regard to Excise it has been declared unequivocally that complete prohibition should be attained in the course of 20 years which means gradual reduction of revenue. With regard to Stamps it has been urged in this House that it is not proper on the part of the Government to make profit out of civil administration. It was pointed out in this House more than once that the Government is making at any rate not less than 50 lakhs of rupees on the administration of civil justice after meeting the expenditure. It is not proper that Government should look to administration of justice as a source of revenue. We thus clearly see that the chance of increasing the revenue is very little and as a matter of fact in the course of 5 or 10 years all the revenue from Excise

and 50 lakhs from Stamps have to be wiped out. In this state of affairs, is it not proper to recognize the urgent need for retrenchment in the expenditure of the Government? The figures that are supplied to us in this Budget Memorandum, I will not say, are misleading but they do not really give us the key to the situation. We must go back to the pre-war period to have a true idea of the revenue and expenditure of this Province. It is a well-known fact that the prices of commodities have come down to the level we had in the pre-war days. The year 1912-13 may be taken as a standard year for the purpose of comparing administrative expenditure of this Province, because the price of commodities is almost the same as it was in 1912-13. What is the revenue that Government derived during those years? In the Civil Budget Estimates of 1914-15, the accounts for 1912-13 show that the revenue of this Province was 15 crores 51 lakhs. At present it is about 18 crores. So during the last 20 years so far as revenue is concerned there is only an increase of three crores. Let us see the expenditure on administration. The expenditure in the year 1912-13 was only 8 crores and 61 lakhs exclusive of provincial contribution and the expenditure to-day is more than double. I know that in certain departments which are intended to develop the material welfare of the country there is a distinct increase in expenditure such as education, medical relief and public health. But that is not enough. Compare the other departments like Land Revenue, Administration of Justice and Jails, you find in everyone of these departments there has been a considerable increase in expenditure. Let us take the expenditure on Police. The expenditure on Police alone has been more than double during these 20 years, whereas the general revenues in that period have not increased by more than 15 per cent. The same story is practically repeated in regard to every other department. So, Sir, the time has come when the Government must make up its mind, earlier the better, to see that drastic retrenchment is effected in the administration of this province. Various members of this House have shown possibilities of retrenchment in the various departments and it is not for us now to enter into the details. I am not very sanguine of the result of committees. It really means postponement. I am certain that Government will be glad to accept the cut motion of Rs. 100 if only for the appointment of a committee. Let the Government make up its mind to effect drastic retrenchment in expenditure. Whether the Government appoint a committee of their own or whether they do it in consultation with the Government of India it does not matter much; we want the result. If the Government undertake to do it themselves I will be very glad. I only request the Government to set themselves to work to see what retrenchment could be effected. Various members have shown the possibilities. We have dealt more than once with the necessity of cutting down not only the salaries of but also the number of supernumerary officials, like the Deputy Inspector-General of Police in the Police department. Again there does not seem to be any necessity for the Sub-Inspector,

the Inspector and the Deputy Superintendent. I believe the Inspectors can easily go. A few more Deputy Superintendents and the Sub-Inspectors can easily do the work. The Inspector does not do real work. He acts more as a Post office. In every department a number of such officers can be removed, and that without impairing the efficiency of the department. In the matter of education I believe it is quite possible that the Veterinary College, the Agricultural College and the Forest College could be amalgamated into one. You find there a number of common subjects. In the Agricultural College, veterinary science is taught. In the Agricultural College, botany is taught and botany is taught also in the Forest College. These colleges could be amalgamated into one. Thus the expenditure on superintendence and increased staff could be easily dispensed with. This is one direction in which retrenchment could be effected. There is no necessity for three colleges, especially when we are being pressed for accommodation in the Agricultural College. So also in the case of the Excise department. The hon. Minister should consider the possibility of doing away with the lower ranks of the excise officers altogether by entrusting some work to the Police. There is no necessity for a separate punitive staff for stopping the manufacture of illicit liquor, etc. In a number 2-45
of other directions, as has been already suggested by various Members, p.m.
it will be possible to effect retrenchment.

" I have to charge the Government for recklessly spending during the past few years, without consideration for the future, large amounts of money on constructing buildings. When I pass by the side of the High Court, I shed tears at the sight of the new building under construction which costs a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs. I do believe the High Court is big enough to locate the Small Cause Court Judges and their offices, as it is being done now. Things like this have gone on without consideration for the future, simply because Government had a large provincial balance to draw upon and spend recklessly on brick and mortar. This seems to me most inexcusable, and I have to repeat that this kind of spending crores and crores on brick and mortar amounts to criminal negligence. I hope at least now, there is this satisfaction that there are no provincial balances left and that there will be no more money for unnecessary wastage.

" With regard to the salaries, Sir, I believe a good deal of retrenchment could be done first of all by way of reducing the number of officers. Seeing that the prices of foodstuffs and the prices of other commodities which are being used by the people have come down to the level of 1912 and 1913, it is absolutely necessary that the salaries of officers above a certain amount, must be drastically reduced. With regard to the pay of Imperial officers, we may not be able to do anything but that is no excuse for effecting retrenchment where we can. I am not one of those who think that because we cannot touch the pay of the Civilians it necessarily follows that the Government is obliged to pay to the other officers lower down proportionately high salaries.

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [17th March 1931

On the other hand, once the Provincial Services receive pay on a scale which is consistent with the economic conditions of the country, it may well lead to a position in which the higher officers also will be quite prepared to accept much smaller pay than they are doing now. At any rate the future entrants into the Imperial Services can be made to receive much less than the high scale prevailing at present, if the Madras Government makes up its mind to see that the salaries of officers is reduced to a rate which is consistent with the economic conditions of the country. If you compare the salary of an average Government official with the income that is earned by a labourer or a ryot or even a lawyer, it seems to me that the Government officials get decent amounts. I am sure the position of a Government official getting even Rs. 50 a month is preferable to that of an average junior lawyer. The income of an average lawyer is not now much more than that of a Government officer who is just above the lowest rung. Such being the case, especially when graduates in Law offer themselves to take up service on Rs. 50 and 60 to begin with, I do not see why at a time when the prices of foodstuffs have come down very low, the Government officials should be paid a high rate. The mistake the Government did was that they thought that the economic conditions and the prices of foodstuffs would remain the same as it was just after the war, when the prices went up to a very high level. I have no complaint against the Government when they raised the salaries under those circumstances. It was then necessary to give relief to the Government officials. But now that the prices of necessaries of life have come down to the level of what I do believe to be lower than the pre-war level, it is absolutely necessary to reduce the salaries to some extent. It is for the Government to prepare a detailed estimate on the basis of which retrenchment of salaries should be made. I do not think there is any use in cutting down a peon here and a duffadar there and leaving the rest as they are.

"Another thing, Sir, is this. The Government in raising the salaries last time also adopted the incremental scale of salaries, or the time scale, instead of the old scale of paying according to grades, which I think is a much better method than having a time scale of pay. I hope the Government will also consider the possibility of adopting the old graded scale. I also believe there is a great deal that could be retrenched in the amounts allotted for allowances, such as travelling allowances and other allowances. Big officers are transferred from place to place and are paid travelling allowance for themselves and their families, to go in trains while most of them maintain motor cars and travel in them and get, I believe, motor car allowance in addition. I have not gone into the details of this question of allowances but I think it is a direction in which Government might investigate the possibility of retrenching expenditure. Again, Sir, I hope the Government in future will adopt a system of paying salaries to Government officials which would vary with the prices of foodstuffs and other necessaries of life. If you have an establishment to collect statistics with regard

17th March 1931] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

to the prices of foodstuffs, and other commodities, it is just possible to adopt in this country such a system of payment according to prices prevailing at the time. That does not mean that the Government will have to fix the salaries of officials every year or every half-year, but by collecting statistics of prices of important commodities and necessaries of life, they can find out the tendency of prices, and when the time comes when prices come down very much and continue to persist in that level for a pretty long period, it ought to be possible for the Government to reduce the salaries of officials. So also, if prices go up they ought to increase the salaries, so that the Government officials need not be at a disadvantage when the prices go up or at an advantage when the prices fall.

"That is the suggestion I make to the Government. Unless the Government makes up its mind to drastically retrench expenditure on administration, the time will soon come when there will be a crash in the finances of the province. No doubt, the hon. the Finance Member may not be willing to find new sources of taxation to prepare for the expected swaraj which will give responsible government to the representatives of the people. Perhaps he may turn round and say 'that is the time when you should think of fixing the salaries in the fashion you like, and of finding ways for retrenching expenditure on administration to make room for the extra expenditure that may be involved in the Reforms.' I hope the Finance Member will not think that his responsibility has ceased and that he need not think of the future. So even now, it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the future finances of this province that immediate steps should be taken to see that expenditure on pure administration is brought down to a lower level consistent with efficiency. It is a well-known fact that this country is one of the poorest countries in the world, and comparatively it pays the highest salaries to the officials. I am not one of those who believe that a high salary alone would prevent the salaried official from being above temptation. I have known people who receive very small salaries of Rs. 50 and 60 and who are absolutely honest, and I have known also people who receive not Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 nor even hundreds but a thousand or more, who do not pay for the supplies made to them on tours. When even big officials, paid highly, are not above taking supplies and not paying for them, how can you consider that high salaries alone will make people honest? I do not believe that moderate salaries alone will tempt people to become dishonest, or conversely that high salaries will necessarily make them honest. I believe a system has to be devised for having a check on these officers in order to prevent any corruption in the services. Once before, I made a suggestion to the Government in this respect, which they did not accept. I hope a time will come when it will be necessary to seriously consider the steps to be taken to prevent the possibilities of taking supplies without payment and to prevent other kinds of corruption. So the argument for high salaries on grounds of keeping up efficiency and preventing corruption

cannot hold water in these days when any number of very highly educated people are unemployed and are seeking entrance into Government service on reasonable pay. I only hope that the hon. the Finance Member will take up this question seriously, instead of avoiding it by appointing a committee or otherwise, and try in the course of the next few months to effect a substantial measure of retrenchment in the expenditure on administration."

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAMH—" Mr. President, Sir, while supporting this motion for the appointment of a retrenchment committee, I wish to offer my own remarks. In so doing, I do not propose to reitarate what has been already said by the other Members of this House. No doubt, various proposals were made for effectively cutting short the expenditure of the Government. Oftentimes, the case of the poor village officers and the village menial servants escapes the notice of the Government. They forget that village officers and menials constitute the foundations, the pillars and corner-stones of the Provincial Administration. The duties and responsibilities of the village officers are multifarious. Their responsibilities are very great, but their salaries are the poorest. This class of persons have been in existence from time immemorial, even from the year 1802 when the Madras Karnams Regulation was passed, wherein I find the following reference:—

'The office of karnam being still of great importance to the preservation of the rights and property of the people, it is expedient to provide for the continuance of that office on an efficient establishment, for the purpose of facilitating the decision of suits in the Courts of Judicature, of preventing the diminution of the fixed revenue of the Government, and of securing individual persons from injustice, by enabling the public officers of Government and the Courts of Judicature to procure authentic information and accounts.'

" That is how they have described the responsibilities of the karnams. So also is the responsibility of the village munsifs. There are any number of instances and cases in which the Government have to depend on the report of the village munsif as the basis. So, if the Government is only particular about the claims of the other members in the services, who is to take care of the status of these poor village officers and servants and who is to improve their salaries? I have my doubts that in cutting short the expenditure under salaries to officers, the Government will also try to reduce the salaries of the village officers who are really deserving of much more than what they now get. An argument might be put forward that their places are hereditary. In view of the Privy Council decision reported in 44 Madras 643, which is described thus:—

'The karnam of a village in Madras occupies his office not by hereditary or family right but as a personal appointee, although the appointment is primarily made of a suitable person, who is a member of a particular family. When karnam service lands have been enfranchised a quit-rent being imposed in lieu of the service and an inam is granted confirming the lands to the holder of the office, his representatives and assigns, the lands are his separate property, and not subject to any claim to partition by other members of the family.'

the place of a village officer is not of a purely hereditary but of a selective nature. Therefore, the argument that the village officers should rest satisfied with the hereditary nature of their appointments does not

17th March 1931] [Mr. G. Simhachalam]

hold good. I therefore request the Government to see that their hands are strengthened by improving the salaries of the village officers who constitute the rock-bottom of the whole Provincial Administration. " 3 p.m.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Sir, on the group of cut motions we have been considering on the subject of retrenchment, we have had very interesting debate. I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation—if a novice in parliamentary discussion may presume to congratulate a veteran—of the very interesting and sensible speech which the hon. Mover of this motion delivered. I do not wish to detain the House by taking point by point all the matters which were brought forward in the various speeches. There was one point, however, which I feel I should not pass over and that is the allegation made by one honourable gentleman that the nation-building departments have been starved in the past or are being starved in the budget which is now under the consideration of the House, or that they had not a fair share in the affluence resulting from the remission of the provincial contributions. That I think, a serious allegation and, if true, a very damaging statement for a responsible member of this House to make, particularly because such a suggestion if read outside the House is likely to be accepted as true. When an allegation of that kind is made on the floor of this House, one would expect that allegation to be supported by the maker with some sort of facts and figures. No such attempt was however made by the hon. Member and I was the more surprised that it should be so; because, I took some trouble in the speeches I made in reply to the debate and in the Budget Memorandum to make this point clear. I am therefore unable to understand how a responsible gentleman in this House can repeat that sort of thing. The facts are ascertainable not only from the current budget but also from a study of the budgets during the last five years or so since we had the provincial contributions released. The statement is entirely inaccurate and incorrect and I think it ought not to have been made lightly by a responsible member of this House.

" In my budget speech, to which I think Mr. Koti Reddi referred, I took the line that, on the budget as worked out, we need not contemplate general retrenchment; because, our financial position, so far as we can look forward, did not seem to require any such retrenchment at the present time. Further, general retrenchment is always a disagreeable and disorganizing operation tending to upset the work of the departments. I do not say it is not, on occasion, a good and necessary thing and, in my reply to the general discussion, I heartily welcomed the attitude which the House had chosen to take in connexion with this question. Hon. Members have now unanimously taken the line that we must look into our position and, if possible, save money.. It has been suggested in the course of the present debate that other provinces and the Government of India are all having retrenchment committees and that therefore we too should have it. I do not think that such an argument is valid, because, after all, whether you need a retrenchment committee or not depends on your financial position. And the House

will be glad to learn no doubt, if it has not already known it, that we in Madras are very much better off than practically any other part of India. I merely mention this, now, because one Member brought forward that argument.

" Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, and I think one or two other speakers, complained that the retrenchment committee of 1922-23 abolished a number of posts and effected various economies but that those posts have now been restored and so on. Well, I think that you cannot expect Government, particularly a Government with more money than it knows what to do with, to retrench for all time, and never to appoint additional officers. A great many of the establishments which were created subsequent to the report of the retrenchment committee, were created in order to give effect to those very nation-building activities, which hon. Members desire to forward. When you desire to expand and do expand the activities of the Public Health, Education, etc., departments, you must have agents to do the work. When that is so, I do not think any blame attaches to Government. At the same time I quite recognize that periods must come when it is necessary to call a halt and, if necessary, to retrench. We have now reached a certain stage when we have to take stock of our situation. In this connection, I will remind the House that one of the principal things which were embodied in the budget figures is the principle that we should strive to balance our revenue and expenditure. The House also has accepted emphatically what I may call a policy of equilibrium. This will probably hereafter involve very much more careful adjustment of our expenditure to our available revenue and, consequently it may involve, probably will involve, some retardation of the rate of expansion which we have been adopting hitherto. That being so, it is not unreasonable that the House should now demand that the question of retrenchment should be thoroughly and seriously gone into and that it should be satisfied that we are not crippling our expansion by undue extravagance on the other side. That appears to be the present position. Sir, the Government, recognizing that, have decided that such an enquiry should now be instituted. In some respects, however, they are unable to accept the motion in the precise form in which Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar has brought it forward. They do not propose to have an *ad hoc* committee, a special committee appointed for this purpose. What they propose to do is, first of all, following the procedure of the retrenchment committee of 1922-23, to appoint a special officer with a suitable clerical staff to examine the expenditure of the various departments of Government and to analyse and see where and why expenditure has grown and to formulate suggestions for economy. When the proposals of this officer are worked out—the House will realize that it will entail a great deal of labour—the result of his labour will be laid before the Finance Committee which is a committee of this House having a considerable non-official majority. The Finance Committee will then be in a position to ask for further information, if necessary, or to suggest other lines of investigation and, in any case, to formulate their view of the matter.

17th March 1931] [Mr. H. G. Stokes]

They will then submit their report to the Government and the Government will, afterwards, very carefully consider the case of each department's expenditure item by item and pass orders on the proposals or suggestions.

"Sir, one hon. Member wanted me to promise that whatever the committee recommended would be accepted by the Government. I would say that we cannot give an assurance of that kind. (Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: Salaries?) Oh yes, the inquiry will cover not only salaries, but all forms of expenditure or economy. I should contemplate that it would investigate also the question of the desirability of the incremental scales of pay and the question whether it is possible to have a sliding scale following the rise or fall in prices. For this purpose, however, I believe we shall need to have elaborate statistics prepared showing index numbers and the like of the cost of living, and there may be difficulties in obtaining them.

"Sir, in one other respect we cannot accept Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's motion in its exact present shape. He proposes that the committee should investigate the resources available for the due administration of the province. I think, Sir, that the investigation of the resources available is rather too big an order for a retrenchment committee. It would lead us all into very speculative fields and I doubt very much whether any useful purpose would be served. The resources of the Government after all are pretty well known and I do not think the Government could accept an investigation by this committee or that a practical examination of the possible taxable resources of the Madras province would be useful. It is going too far and it will probably work a great deal of difficulty and possibly also make the enquiry 'top-heavy,' as members are fond of calling the administration, with the result that very likely the committee would do no practical work. With these remarks, I express the hope that the hon. Member will not press this motion."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am glad the hon. the Finance Member has recognized the necessity to look into the finances of this province. No doubt, Sir, the Finance Committee is a committee elected by this House but I would have preferred a smaller committee to make a thorough investigation into a complicated matter like this.

"At the same time, it is a matter for the Government to appoint 3-15 p.m. the committee even if my resolution is accepted in the form in which I moved it. It is quite open to the hon. the Finance Member to appoint the Finance Committee as the committee to go into the qeustion of retrenchment, but there is no meaning in appointing such a committee if there is no change of procedure. I would only appeal to the hon. the Finance Member to enlighten us as to whether the Special Officer who is going to be appointed would go into the details of every department, whether the Finance Committee also will be in a position to review the details concerning each department and whether the Finance

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931

Committee may initiate enquiries. What I submit is that the Finance Committee should not depend upon the views of the Special Officer alone. If that is granted, I will accept the amendment proposed by the hon. the Finance Member and accept it in the form in which he has amended it.''

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—'' I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 100*'.

'' My object in moving this cut is to protest against the policy of re-entertaining retired officers.

'' Mr. President, I do not wish to take much of the time of the House, but I wish to point out that it is not a sound policy for the Government to appoint officers who have retired after doing service that they could afford to do before their 55th year. It is not always possible for officers who have served in Government for thirty or thirty-five years of their lifetime to come back again and to attend to office work. It is good for both officers and Government that the former should take rest after their retirement and that Government should give employment to younger men. There are many instances of officers having been re-entertained by this Government. I do not wish to go into detail, but I wish only to draw the attention of Government that it is not a sound policy nor is it economical for them to re-entertain people who have once retired. If they pursue this policy I ask what is to happen to those who are under that officer and who are subordinates to him. Their promotions are blocked and they have to wait till that officer thinks of retiring. It may be that that officer may once again be re-entertained. That has been the case in one or two officers. I may give the instance of one Mr. Pranatharthihara Ayyar. He was Inspector of Schools and after a long service he retired. I understand he is now in charge of censorship of books. There is also the instance of our famous Krishna Rao Bhonsle. I do not know how long these officers are going to be re-entertained, thus blocking the promotions of those who are under them. I have given only two instances but there are scores of instances like these where retired men have been re-entertained. I urge that Government should put a stop to this policy and give an opportunity to younger men and not block their promotions.

'' With these few words, I move my cut motion.''

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—'' I was not aware that Government had been re-entertaining a large number of retired officers. It is one of our principles not to re-employ retired men in ordinary circumstances. It is only on public grounds that such re-employment has been permitted in certain cases, and I believe such cases are exceptional. I regret that I cannot give the reasons why the two gentlemen referred to by the hon. Member have been re-employed after

their retirement. I was not aware that the hon. Member intended to refer to these cases, but I am sure there were public grounds for their re-employment. I may assure the hon. Mover that we are quite in sympathy with the principle underlying his motion, although we cannot bind ourselves never to re-entertain retired officers in future."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat be reduced by Rs.* 100'.

"Sir, I move this cut motion to urge the appointment of more Muslims in the Secretariat departments. (Laughter.)

"Sir, it may be a case for laughter to some of my friends, when I rise in this House to put forward the claims of a particular community. It is just possible that they feel lightly over this question, because it does not affect them, and they have not yet begun to feel about anything other than themselves. Hence it has become a necessity that I should come forward in this House to bring home to them the necessity for safeguarding the claims of a particular community and to see that no distinction is made between one community and another. I wish that the mentality of those officers who want to make a distinction between one community and another is changed, and that all communities should prosper. Sir, the Mussalman community has not been treated in the way in which it ought to have been treated. Times have changed and are changing and younger men of various communities who have returned from England want to get themselves employed in Government. But still the old order continues and if a gentleman belonging to one community becomes the Superintendent of a department, he wishes to bring into his office members of his own community, nay even members belonging to his own family. That has been the mentality all along. As long as this mentality continues in Government service, this country will suffer owing to communalism. That is why I say there should be a change in the mentality. Anybody that comes into power must change his mentality. He must not make any distinction between one community and another with regard to promotion or appointment. That is why I have come forward with this cut motion.

"Sir, in the Secretariat, there is hardly a single Mussalman as Secretary, nor is there any one as Under Secretary—I suppose there is one Assistant Secretary and one Superintendent and a few clerks. I have been in this House for some time and I have been asking whether Government have taken any steps to draw the attention of the officers concerned to make up this difference, but nothing has been done till now. Ever since 1924, there seems to be a handful of Muslims. There was the Staff Selection Board before and there is now the Madras Services Commission. Every clerk has to pass through that mill before he can be fit to be a member of the Secretariat. These are all obstacles that have been put in the way of people getting appointments, and yet the

Government say that this Commission has been brought into existence for helping backward communities to come forward. On the other hand, what do we find? Those communities for whom these obstacles have been brought into existence have not been able to secure appointments. Now I urge it is the duty of the Government to see that these obstacles do not work against particular communities. Recently, the hon. the Revenue Member in answer to a question replied that properly qualified persons are not found or are not coming forward or something to that effect. There are scores of graduates, 100 or 200, who are going in the streets in search of employments. They could have very well taken up their family profession, but after spending money upon a costly education, they naturally want to get themselves employed under Government. What is to become of them? Their lot is miserable. As long as there is Government service and as long as you employ men, I ask why can you not do justice to all communities. I hope that the authorities concerned will see that the mentality of those who have got the power of making appointments is changed and that justice is done to all communities."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, while supporting this motion I must say that I am sorry that we are forced to bring to the notice of Government this sort of communal distinction which is being made in the matter of giving appointments to various communities. As has been pointed out by the speaker, who preceded me, it is because we feel that the attitude of Government in the matter of encouraging Muslim community for appointments in Government service has been very unsympathetic, that we are forced to criticise the policy of the Government. Human nature being what it is, I think it is only natural that those who are in charge of giving appointments would like to give them only to men of their own community and to members of their own family. So it is the duty of heads of departments to look to such vagaries and check them, see that justice is done to all communities and that equal opportunities are given to all. While discussing about the Registration department all these things have been fully dealt with and so there is no necessity for me now to bring home to the Government the need for encouraging backward communities. I hope that Government will hereafter at least see that justice is done to Muhammadans and other communities."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Mr. President, Sir, though a Hindu, it gives me great pleasure to support my hon. and learned Friend from Madras in this cut motion. As my hon. and learned Friend has made out when speaking on this cut motion, Government do not seem to have considered the claims of Mussalmans at all in the appointments to the Secretariat staff. If my hon. Friends opposite have only taken the trouble to go through the figures furnished by the Government they would not have laughed over the matter as they did when my friend moved the motion. From the return furnished by the Government and placed on the table of the House only a few days ago, if you take into

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

consideration, Mr. President, the various departments of the Secretariat and their sanctioned strength, you will find, Sir, that the proportion of Mussalmans to other communities is very small. 3-30 p.m.

" The sanctioned number of Gazetted officers in the eight departments of the Secretariat is about 26. Of these, Sir, you will be surprised to note that there is not even one Mussalman. The sanctioned strength of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and above comes to 181; out of these 181, there are only three Muslims. The total sanctioned strength of persons on Rs. 35 and upwards upto Rs. 100, is 152; out of these 152, there are only 17 Muslims. Out of the eight Secretariats, the worst sinner is the departments with which the hon. the Revenue Member is directly concerned; the second sinner is the department with which the hon. Member, Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi is concerned. I find, Sir, that, for the last six or seven years, there has not been even one Muslim in the Revenue Secretariat. That department seems to be a close preserve for two minority communities; I do not want to mention the names of those two minority communities."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" May I know the list to which the hon. Member is referring? "

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" The list is the return of officers holding permanent appointments corrected up to 1st April 1930. The Development department is the second sinner. I find that for the last six or seven years, there have been in all two or three Muslims in that department and that too for short periods.

" I have therefore very great pleasure in supporting the motion made by the learned Member for Madras."

* Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur :—" Sir, I am afraid that this Council is fed up with communal questions. Coming as I do from the mufassal, I gave notice of an interpellation regarding this communal Government Order. A question was asked by me regarding the appointments of Deputy Tahsildar in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari. The answer furnished by the hon. the Revenue Member was that there were direct recruitment of seven Deputy Tahsildars in Ganjam and no Muhammadan was appointed at all, though, I may inform the House, that therea re Muhammadan graduates who have been working as clerks for about ten or twelve years in that district. The same is the case with Vizagapatam. I suppose that in East Godavari only, one Muhammadan has been appointed. If the communal Government Order has been applied in these districts, I am sure, that out of twelve appointments, at least two Muhammadans ought to have got in. I do recognise that attempts are being made in the mufassal by heads of departments to promote Muhammadans and minorities according to the proportion fixed in the Government Order. But my purpose in speaking on this cut motion is to draw the attention of the Government and the hon. the Revenue Member to issue instructions to the heads of departments to give effect to the Government Order as far as possible without efficiency being affected. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will pay attention to the legitimate grievances of the community."

[17th March 1931

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, hon. Members who have spoken, have once again voiced the disabilities under which Mussalmans are supposed to lie in the matter of employment in Government services. As I think hon. Members are aware, some three or four years ago what is known as communal rotation rule was adopted in almost all services and departments except where expert knowledge is required, so as to provide for the due representation of backward classes, so far as candidates may be forthcoming. Attention has been particularly drawn to the fact that, in the Secretariat, there is a paucity of Muslims in the number of clerks and officers. But you will find that there has been one Muhammadan acting as Assistant Secretary in the Local Self-Government department for the past two years; he is a Gazetted Officer. In certain other cases also there have been acting officers and they have been actually doing the work of the department. I am afraid that, in many departments of the Secretariat, we do have difficulty in getting enough Muslim candidates. I hope, Sir, this difficulty will be removed in course of time. I have got some particulars as regards the selections made by the Staff Selection Board in 1927-1928 and 1928-1929 for clerkships; I find that in the year 1927-1928, the total number of Muhammadans who were eligible were three non-graduates and six graduates and all of them have obtained employment. In 1928-1929, the number of qualified non-graduate Muhammadan candidates was five; out of these, three have obtained employment; and the others will probably be employed. But we do want Muhammadan candidates to apply in large numbers. As I said the other day, when we have the results of these examinations held by the Madras Services Commission, if we find then that any particular community is not sufficiently represented, then the question of the measures to be adopted, —such as a temporary alteration of age restrictions, etc.,—will be considered by the Government in order to expedite the levelling up of the representation in the services, so that all communities may obtain fair representation in the services."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, I withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" Sis, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz.—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" I wish to bring to the attention of the Government that in the Secretariat offices, there are very few people of the Andhra districts getting employment. It must be surprising that the very gentlemen who have been criticising about this communal representation are the very same persons who frequently bring this question before the House. Just now, the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, has referred to his own community. This is not a communal question of that kind; but it is communal in one sense. But I suppose it is a welcome proposition both to Brahmans and non-Brahmans alike. Considering the extent of the area of the Andhradesa and the importance of the population, I

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

their retirement. I was not aware that the hon. Member intended to refer to these cases, but I am sure there were public grounds for their re-employment. I may assure the hon. Mover that we are quite in sympathy with the principle underlying his motion, although we cannot bind ourselves never to re-entertain retired officers in future."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to move--

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat be reduced by Rs.* 100'.

"Sir, I move this cut motion to urge the appointment of more Muslims in the Secretariat departments. (Laughter.)

"Sir, it may be a case for laughter to some of my friends, when I rise in this House to put forward the claims of a particular community. It is just possible that they feel lightly over this question, because it does not affect them, and they have not yet begun to feel about anything other than themselves. Hence it has become a necessity that I should come forward in this House to bring home to them the necessity for safeguarding the claims of a particular community and to see that no distinction is made between one community and another. I wish that the mentality of those officers who want to make a distinction between one community and another is changed, and that all communities should prosper. Sir, the Mussalman community has not been treated in the way in which it ought to have been treated. Times have changed and are changing and younger men of various communities who have returned from England want to get themselves employed in Government. But still the old order continues and if a gentleman belonging to one community becomes the Superintendent of a department, he wishes to bring into his office members of his own community, nay even members belonging to his own family. That has been the mentality all along. As long as this mentality continues in Government service, this country will suffer owing to communalism. That is why I say there should be a change in the mentality. Anybody that comes into power must change his mentality. He must not make any distinction between one community and another with regard to promotion or appointment. That is why I have come forward with this cut motion.

"Sir, in the Secretariat, there is hardly a single Mussalman as Secretary, nor is there any one as Under Secretary—I suppose there is one Assistant Secretary and one Superintendent and a few clerks. I have been in this House for some time and I have been asking whether Government have taken any steps to draw the attention of the officers concerned to make up this difference, but nothing has been done till now. Ever since 1924, there seems to be a handful of Muslims. There was the Staff Selection Board before and there is now the Madras Services Commission. Every clerk has to pass through that mill before he can be fit to be a member of the Secretariat. These are all obstacles that have been put in the way of people getting appointments, and yet the

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [17th March 1931

applied but 2 were selected; 181 non-Andhra non-graduates applied of whom 106 were selected. That shows that there is a very much smaller number of applicants from the Andhra country compared with the non-Andhras for employment in the city of Madras. But as regards Secretariat departments, to which reference was made this morning, we have issued instructions to the departments of the Secretariat to see that more Andhras are appointed. I was not able to place the instructions on the table of the House then as I had not got them then. I have them now and with your permission, I shall be glad to read them.

"The Chief Secretary has sent the followng memorandum to the Secretaries to Government in the various departments:

3-45 p.m. 'It is observed that a preponderating number of clerical appointments in the Secretariat are held at present by persons of a single linguistic area, namely Tamilians. In view of the general demand as voiced in the Legislative Council for a fair representation of all such areas in the Secretariat, Secretaries to Government should endeavour, in making appointments in future to their departments, to see that adequate representation is given as far as practicable to representatives of other vernaculars '.

"I hope that these instructions will have the desired effect of ensuring that all the linguistic areas are duly represented."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"I beg leave to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"I move this cut with a view to protest against the policy of political discrimination in giving Government advertisements to daily newspapers."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, during the Civil Disobedience Movement, we did pass an order saying that Government advertisements should not be given to papers which have been brought under the Press Ordinance. Now that things have changed, and only this morning I told the House to let bygones be bygones and in that spirit, I intend to issue instructions regarding these advertisements."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I move this cut motion—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100'

17th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

with a view to protest against the action of the Government in calling upon the printer and publisher of *Dravidan* to furnish security under the Press Ordinance. With your permission, Sir, I also move the other cut motion standing in my name, which is—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100 '

for protesting against the action of the Government in demanding security from *Swarajya* without giving any warning and specifying the articles objected to.

" Mr. President, Sir, various questions were asked in this House of the hon. Member responsible for this portfolio in regard to this matter. He was pleased to reply that there was no need for the Government to give any warning to any paper before they took this step of demanding security, or as it were, preventing its publication. It is just but right and it well becomes a civilized Government to give an opportunity to its enemy to explain its policy and see if it cannot suit the requirements of the Government and so arrange its editorials and news publication as not to offend the susceptibilities of the Government. The Government of Madras did not do so; to my knowledge there are instances of the different way in which the Governments of other provinces have been dealing with questions of this kind. Even in Madras itself, the Government have made some discrimination between one paper and another; in dealing with one or two papers here, they made use of the Ordinance to suppress the papers or stop their publication, but they did give them notice and they did draw the attention of certain other papers to the publication of news and editorials. In the case of these two unfortunate papers, however, the Government did not think it fit to draw the attention of the editors and publishers to any articles to which objection was taken. I take it that the main object of the Government was to prevent the publication of articles which were objectionable. If the Government did not really mean to prevent the publication of other editorials and news which were not objectionable, if their *bona fides* were all right, then they should have resorted to giving a warning to the printers, publishers and editors and asked them whether they were prepared to so change their attitude as to be acceptable to the Government. That opportunity was not given in the case of these two papers. With regard to the *Dravidan* itself, I was really surprised that a paper which belonged to the party in power should have been treated in the manner it was done. The paper stands for one of the wings of the Justice Party, and I was surprised that the Party in power was a party to the Government taking such a serious step in dealing with their own paper. I expect my hon. Friends of the Justice Party will come forward with some explanation, or they may have given a brief to the hon. the Home Member who also belongs to that party, to deal with this question in their behalf. I hope the Government will not treat this matter in the way in which the hon. the Home Member has treated it, and say that they regret it . . ."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is no use of his saying that, Sir, because I did not say 'regret' in this respect."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"If I may quote the hon. the Home Member's very words, he said, 'Nobody regrets more than the Government.'"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That was with regard to that particular question, Sir, on behalf of the Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I only meant that much, Sir. Why does the hon. Member get up and say that he did not say so? He has regretted on behalf of the Government once, and that is enough. Well, Sir, if any necessity arises for issuing an Ordinance and making use of it in a province, the Government of that province should use their discretion and use the powers they are endowed with under the Ordinance, in such a manner as to give an opportunity to the people concerned to so change their policy, if possible, as to make it unobjectionable and to know what it is that was really objectionable from the point of view of the Government. The Government should not also make any distinction between one paper and another in this province. One paper may write very strongly, but the Government do not check it; while for reasons of their own or for reasons known only to the Members of the Government, another paper writing equally strongly is checked. That ought not to be the policy of the Government. They should see whether the article is really objectionable. It is only on the merit of the article that the Government should take any action, and it ought not to be on the likes or dislikes of any particular Member of the Government towards the paper, who may want that a paper should be throttled. I hope, Sir, that Government will not be moved by such considerations, small as they are."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I am exceedingly sorry that Mr. Hameed Khan should speak in this manner, especially after the very sympathetic reply that I have given just now. It looks to me as if Mr. Hameed Khan can flourish only when there is trouble between the Government and the Congress. He does not care to promote harmony and friendship in the country and between the Government and the people. As to the *Dravidan*, I should say that that paper was warned three times under the first Ordinance, though security was not actually demanded. As soon as that Ordinance expired, the tone of the *Dravidan* became noticeably more objectionable. Within a fortnight of the promulgation of the second Ordinance the *Dravidan* again published objectionable matter and was warned for this. Only two days after the warning, it published another objectionable article upon which a security was demanded. And I may say that under the Ordinance, it is not necessary that we should give a warning at all."

17th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Why was not any warning given to both the papers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because we thought in the case of the *Dravidan* that it would improve; but in the case of the *Swarajya*, that paper had been time after time asking the people to break laws and enter the Civil Disobedience Movement, and we therefore thought that no warning was necessary at all. I may again say, Sir, that there is no use going now into all these unpleasant matters. What we want at present is a spirit of friendship and harmony as between the people and the Government in all possible directions."

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was demanded by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, which was taken with the following result:— 4 p.m.

Ayes.

1. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
2. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya.
3. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti.
4. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
5. Mr. Yakub Hasan.
6. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.
7. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
8. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
9. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
10. Mr. G. Simhachalam.
11. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
12. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur.
13. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
14. ,, A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai.
15. ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
16. ,, K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.
17. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
18. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
19. Mr. K. Pattabhiramayya.
20. ,, C. Satyanarayana Choudari.
21. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell.
4. ,, Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju.
9. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal.
10. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian.
11. ,, H. R. Pate.
12. ,, H. A. Watson.
13. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
14. ,, S. V. Ramamurti.
15. ,, Hilton Brown.
16. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
19. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
20. ,, M. Devadasan.
21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
22. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
23. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar.
24. ,, B. P. Sesha Reddi.
25. ,, M. S. Sreshta.
26. ,, P. C. Moses.
27. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
28. ,, C. Indriah.
29. ,, P. Bayappa Reddi.
30. ,, A. Kondappa.
31. ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
32. ,, R. M. Palat.
33. ,, K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
34. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
35. Mr. G. R. Premayya.
36. Raja of Bobbili.
37. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
38. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
39. ,, A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
40. Diwan Bahadur A. M. Murugappa Chettiyar.
41. Zamindar of Ettiyapuram.
42. Mr. Daniel Thomas.
43. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.

44. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
45. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
46. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
47. Mr. C. Basu Dev.
48. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
49. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti.
50. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
51. ,, G. Sriramulu.
52. ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
53. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
54. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
55. Mr. C. Krishnan.
56. ,, R. Foulkes.

Ayes 21. *Noes* 56.

The motion was lost.

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM in moving the following motion, viz.,

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100'

to discuss the policy of the Madras Services Commission, and to abolish the same, spoke as follows in Tamil:—

“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! சென்னை சர்விஸ் கமிஷனை எடுத்துவிட வேண்டும். அதன் கொள்கைகள் சரியானதாயில்லை. ஐயா! ஒவ்வொரு மாணவன் படிப்பதற்கு வீட்டிலுள்ள பொருள்கள் எல்லாவற்றையும் செலவழித்துவிடுகிறான். மாதம் 50 ரூபாய்கள்செலவழிக்கிறான் கலாசாலை பரிக்ஷையில் தேருவது மிகவும் சிரமமாயிருக்கிறது. அப்படி தேறியவர்களை புறக்கணிப்பதற்கு இக்கமிஷன் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. கமிஷன் முன்னர் தேறாமற்போனால் அரசாங்க உத்தியோகங்கள் எவற்றிலும் நுழைவதற் கில்லாமற்போகிறது. ஆகையால் ஏற்கனவே அரசாங்கத்தார் பரிக்ஷையில் என்ன மார்க்கு வாங்கியுள்ளார்களோ அவர்கள் கொடுக்கும் உறுதிப்பத்திரத்தில் என்ன தகுதி கண்டிருக்கிறதோ அதனையே தகுதியாகக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்படி இல்லையானால் யுனிவர்சிட்டி பரிக்ஷை வேண்டாம். ஆகையால் சர்விஸ் கமிஷனைஅடியோட ஒழிக்கவேண்டும்.

“நாட்டில் போதுமான கலாசாலைகளில்லை, மூலாதார கலாசாலைகள் அருமையாக ஏற்பட்டுவருகின்றன. அதிலும் உயர்தர மூலாதாரப்படிப்பு முயற்கொம்பாகிவிட்டது. மூலாதார பாடசாலைகளில் ஆங்கிலம் கற்றுக்கொடுப்தில்லை. நான்காவது வரை படித்தப்பிறகு எங்கேனும் தெரிந்தவர்களைக்கொண்டு மிகவுஞ் சிரமப்பட்டுமிடில் ஸ்கூல், நடுத்தர கலாசாலைக்குப் போகிறான். போவதற்குள் வயது அதிகமாகிவிடுகிறது. படித்து எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸிக்குப்போய் பலர் பரிக்ஷையில் தேறாமல் போகின்றனர். ஜாதிக்கொடுமையாலர் முன்னர்த் தேறினாலும் பின்னர் சர்விஸ் கமிஷனில் தேருவது மிகவும் அறிதாகிவிடுவதோடு, வயது அதிகமாகிவிட்டது என்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் பட்டிருக்கும் கஷ்டங்களை யுணர்ந்தும் உத்தியோகங்களில் ஆதிதிராவிடப் பிரதிநிதிகள் போதுமானவரை யில்லாமையாலும் அவைகளை நிரப்ப உத்தியோகம் நிருவகிக்கும் தகுதி மாத்திரம் பார்த்துக்கொண்டு வயதை தளர்த்திக்கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதற்கு சரியான பதில் கனம் ரெவினியூ மெம்பர் கொடுப்பாரென்று நம்புகிறேன்.”

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I feel it my duty to support the motion of my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam. Though he is hesitating whether the motion should be pressed to a

17th March 1931] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

division or not, I think it my duty to place certain facts before this hon. House for its consideration. Sir, there had been several devices in the past in the matter of making appointments to Government services. In the beginning, the officers themselves were appointing persons when there were vacancies under them. Subsequently, the Staff Selection Board came into existence and that Board was making appointments to bigger posts leaving smaller appointments to be made by the officers concerned, but the Government thought that system was working prejudicially to the interests of certain classes. Then, the Madras Services Commission was started and at the time it was constituted, we thought that it would remove favouritism and nepotism which existed before in several departments of the Government. I am afraid to say that the Services Commission is not favourable to us, but on the other hand it is more dangerous to our interests. The other day, when I spoke at the time of the General Discussion of the Budget, I said that the rules framed by the Services Commission in regard to examination and restrictions in regard to age should be relaxed in favour of the depressed classes, but at that time, I did not state in full the reasons in support of that request. Now, I find it necessary to state the reasons for complying with the request. In the first place, I must say that the condition of the depressed classes is entirely different from that of the other communities. First of all, there has been an inadequate representation of the depressed classes in several departments of the public service and when a few men apply for appointments in Government service, they are turned out on the ground of over-age or for some other reason. I can only say, Sir, that if these people are given a chance, I am sure they will rise equal to the occasion and will fulfill the duties which may be entrusted to them quite as satisfactorily as the people of other communities. The second reason why there should be a relaxation of the rules with regard to the members of the depressed classes is that these people have to rise in life after enduring many difficulties and troubles during the early stages of their education.

" Sir, the class of people to which I belong has been admitted to be proverbially poor and it is therefore very difficult for the parents of the children to give them education in order to enable them to compete with other classes of men on a footing of equality. Coming as I do from the Tinnevelly district, though I am a Christian myself, I have often experienced difficulties in the matter of lodging and boarding. I do not wish now to detail those difficulties, since my hon. Friends are in a position to know them. I presume, Sir, the conditions prevailing in Tinnevelly are the same as those prevailing in other parts of the Presidency. You know the difficulties and disabilities under which the members of the untouchable community suffer.

" The other reason why there should be a relaxation of this rule is, that the facilities for training and culture that they receive while

they are boys are not the same as are available to other classes of people, but let me not be understood to mean that I envy the position of the other communities. I merely want to point out that there are several obstacles standing in the way of advancement of the people of my community. For these reasons, Sir, we are not able to compete on a footing of equality with the other classes of people. I, therefore, wish to point out to the Government that if these hard and fast rules are enforced in the case of the depressed classes, then they cannot be at all employed in Government service. I must say, Sir, that this would work a great hardship. In the past men who have not received sufficient education, men who had not obtained any degree and men who passed no examination were employed and yet they proved quite efficient in the discharge of the duties they were allowed to perform. I am sure, Sir, if the depressed class men are allowed a chance, they will also discharge those duties to the best satisfaction of the officers under whom they might be employed quite as much as members of other communities.

"Coming then to the rules framed by the Services Commission, I may say that by these rules the Government are not going to confer any blessing upon the people of my community. The rules so framed tend to exclude depressed class people from service rather than to admit them into it. I may also point out in this connexion that there is no necessity for compelling them to sit for the examinations conducted by this Commission; and as my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam, observed, these people have to study under a difficult set of circumstances, inasmuch as they have to study hard by burning the mid-night oil for their school or college examinations. In addition they have to spend a considerable sum of money for the purpose and yet, after passing those examinations, it is really very hard that these people should again be asked to sit for the examinations conducted by the Services Commission. I may also state that these difficulties are not common only to the depressed classes, but they apply equally to other minorities. For instance, there are backward communities in my district, e.g., barbers and others who are backward in point of education, and in their cases also, the rules may be relaxed. After undergoing tyranny for centuries, it is very difficult for my people to compete with the other communities. I have to say that the efficiency of the students of these backward and depressed communities might be tested by the examinations they have already passed. I do not know what the Services Commission is going to do to my people. If examination by the Commission is insisted upon in the case of these depressed communities, it may hinder their progress. Simply to exclude them from service, the Commission may throw out their applications on the ground of not possessing the requisite qualifications. Now, I want to take this opportunity of saying a few words on behalf of a section placed under the category of Indian Christians. Recently, the Government have issued an order that the Christians should be differentiated from

17th March 1931] [Mr. Devadasan]

the depressed classes altogether. I must say, Sir, that the conditions of the depressed classes are the same all over whether they are Christians or Hindus. So far as the Christians coming from the depressed classes are concerned, their claims also should be considered in the same light as the claims of the depressed classes in general, but I do not want any of my Hindu friends to sacrifice their claims in favour of the Christians. What I want to urge is that when a Hindu Adi-Dravida is not available, then the claims of a Christian who is bold enough to call himself an Adi-Dravida should be considered. With these few words, I support the motion for reduction."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am not one of those who believe that there is absolute necessity for having a Services Commission. But I don't believe my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, will press for the abolition of the Services Commission. If there are any hardships with regard to the rules that have been framed by the Commission, that does not mean that a case has been made out for its abolition; it only means that the time has come to draw the attention of the Government and the Public Services Commission for a change in those rules. In every democratic country it is found absolutely necessary to have a Services Commission for making appointments so that political considerations may not play any part in the distribution of offices. I also feel, Sir, that the rules that have been so far framed, with or without the connivance of the Government (laughter) are not very satisfactory. A serious attempt ought to be made by the Services Commission not only to give effect to the communal Government Order according to communities, but also to take into account the educational backwardness of certain areas. For example, it is no satisfaction for the Ceded districts, if the required number of Brahmans or non-Brahmans is appointed according to the communal Government Order, if they don't get a chance. In this connexion, I may also say this: before the Commission came into existence, I have seen cases where the Collectors of these districts have imported graduates from the Northern Circars or other places to fill up vacancies in their offices, even though there were graduates available from the Ceded districts themselves. Perhaps their action might be justified when there were no graduates in the Ceded districts. But those days are now gone, and therefore to import outsiders now will be doing injustice to the districts. In this direction, the Services Commission is doing no better. They should so frame rules as to give a fair chance for all areas of varied educational development. I don't plead for each district separately but districts of similar educational attainments may be grouped together. If you take into account that point, perhaps you will have to group together the Ceded Districts or perhaps club together the districts of Chittoor and Nellore and the Ceded districts, as they are less advanced than the other Telugu districts and the rest of the Presidency.

4-15 p.m.

" With regard to the examinations I feel it is real hardship to ask all candidates to sit for another examination to be held by the

Commission itself. No doubt, the Commission has its own difficulty of choosing from hundreds of applicants suitable candidates for four or five vacancies. In spite of this argument which may be put forward I have my own grievance against examination as such. I don't personally believe that examination is the real test of efficiency in the case of all appointments. There are certain appointments where probably purely and highly intellectual work has to be done, and in such cases, examination may be justified. But in most other cases where there is not much of high intellectual work I don't see any necessity for examination. As a matter of fact, Sir, we come across several cases of men of high educational qualifications who have proved a miserable failure as administrators, and we also come across cases of men of ordinary educational qualifications who have made a mark in the field of administration. Then, Sir, it is also a sorrowful spectacle to see for ordinary appointments graduates being clubbed together with Intermediate and School Final students and asked to undergo this examination. I believe the University have conferred on them the degree after satisfying themselves about their intellectual qualifications. I hope the Commission will put a stop to this practice. Personally I am against examination. Let them set apart certain posts for candidates who have passed the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate, some posts for Intermediate students and some posts for graduates. Then, Sir, it may be argued that in the absence of examination, favouritism will be brought to bear. And I don't think that argument will hold water as examinations need not necessarily exclude favouritism. Because, Sir, since most of the posts do not need much of intellectual work, there is no fear of the less intellectual candidates proving incompetent. Take, for instance, the case of sub-registrars. An Intermediate or School Final candidate can very well carry on the duties of a sub-registrar as efficiently, if not more efficiently, than a graduate, who may not be satisfied with that position. When that is so, is it necessary that the candidate should pass the examination set by the Commission? I hope the Government will take into consideration this point and see that the test is not insisted in all cases except where purely intellectual work is required, as in the Finance, or the Audit or the Law Departments.

"Then, Sir, it is advanced by some that on account of the communal Government Order efficiency of the department is going down. I don't believe in that. I believe that success in most of departments depends upon the character, the physical energy, sympathy towards the people and on the knowledge of the local people, etc. Take, for example, a person who has passed the portals of the University with high intellectual qualifications. How can he prove a successful officer in the district administration unless he possesses in abundance the other qualifications referred to? As opposed to this, take the case of an officer coming from the ranks of the ryots, who has full knowledge of the life and conditions of the rural populations of an average Indian, and it needs no argument to say that he will ordinarily prove a successful officer.

Again, take the legal profession. How many first-class graduates are there who have proved a failure in their profession? And how many third-class graduates are there who are earning both in Madras Bar and the mufassal ten times the amount that many a first-class graduate is earning?

"Then, Sir, from the point of finance a great deal of hardship is caused by the Commission requiring medical certificates from all applicants. For two or three posts, there are thousands of applicants and the Commission asks every one of them to produce medical certificate. Now this is only enriching the coffers of the medical officers. The proper thing to do is to ask the selected candidate to produce the medical certificate, and I hope Government will rectify this matter very early.

"Finally, Sir, I submit that Government should advise the Services Commission to make the appointments not only on the basis of the Communal Government Order but also on the basis of areas of varied educational progress as I have already indicated."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member from Cuddapah when he says that the Commission works great hardship when it calls upon candidates to produce medical certificates along with their applications. For in the case of many of them there is absolutely no chance of being selected as things stand at present in the mufassal. What is at present obtaining in the mufassal is that this rule gives a lot of income to the medical practitioners especially to District Medical Officers. And thus it puts the poor people to unnecessary expenditure particularly at this time when they are hard pressed for money. Not only that, sometimes they are asked to go over to Madras, and this no doubt adds to their expense. And this additional burden is all the more felt by the depressed classes. So, I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will issue instructions to the Madras Services Commission not to insist any more on the production of medical certificates along with applications.

"With regard to the main motion itself, I have got very great sympathy with Mr. Sahajanandam. In fact the trouble is not so much with the Commission itself. I must state that the whole mischief is due to the communal Government Order. In fact no adequate representation has been given to the unfortunate depressed classes. For the depressed class community is put under the last category of various other communities, viz., 'others'. So the communal Government Order, at least in the interests of the depressed classes, should be revised at an early date. Supposing a depressed class member enters public service, even there he has to undergo certain peculiar difficulties. For it must be remembered that in the mufassal men in service are not free from caste prejudice. I may mention one case. There was a probationer from the depressed class community in the Revenue Department. He was the only man from his caste and all the other rest were castemen; and he, being an educated man, and as all educated men

[Mr. A. Kondappa] [17th March 1931

are inclined, began to preach to his co-workers to practice equalty. This was resented by his superior, a casteman and by other people who were associated with him. They thought that their prestige and dignity would be lost if this man were allowed to preach about equality of all men in season and out of season.

4-30 p.m. "So they took the first opportunity of sending him home; and in that way, sometimes weak men, incompetent men, who are in the good graces of officers with caste prejudices are allowed to prosper and rise, and very competent men, honest people drawn from the depressed classes suddenly find that their probation is termnated. That is a state of affairs which ought not to be tolerated in the interests of the depressed classes and in the interests of the efficient administration of the public services in this province. So, it is highly essential that in the case of the public service, the depressed classes should be largely recruited and protected because they have no godfathers either in the services or outside the services to champion their rights and see that they are protected and promoted. And whenever any depressed class man is sent out of the service, there should be a special enquiry by some outside authority; and unless such authority agrees, the depressed class men ought not to be sent out of the service. So, Sir, that is my experience, and I do not think the educated man, the ordinary educated man in this province, feels very much for the men of the depressed classes either in service or outside the service. Well, Sir, the high caste Hindu has been a sinner for ages. He has been taking the services of these unfortunate depressed classes for ages and when it comes to a question of giving a helping hand to the depressed class man he does not show his gratitude to him. Therefore, Sir, it is high time in the interests of the depressed classes that people of other communities, Indians as well as Europeans, Muslims and non-Muslims, Brahmans and non-Brahmans, join hands and try to serve them to give them a chance, to encourage them, to protect them and to bring them up till they come up to the level of other communities in the province. That is a sacred duty, Sir, which we, the people of the province, owe to the depressed classes of this Presidency.

"With these remarks, Sir, I say that though there is no necessity to abolish the Madras Services Commission, there is every necessity to look sympathetically into the claims of the depressed classes and I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will communicate the views of this House to the Madras Services Commission so that they may take appropriate measures in order to advance and safeguard the interests of the depressed classes. If the hon. Member for Revenue gives that assurance I would request my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, to withdraw his motion, so that we may be in a position to judge how things stand at the next chance a year hence."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a similar motion for a token cut to draw the attention of the Government to the poor representation of Adi-Dravidas in

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. L. Muniswami Pillai]

the public service and request for special rules for an increased percentage in public service. Sir, if I rise to-day it is not to suggest the abolition of the Madras Services Commission for the constition of which this Council, or rather the previous Council, was a party. But I rise to request the hon. the Revenue Member to make or draw up proper rules to facilitate the work of the Commission in the matter of giving an increased percentage of employment to members of the Adi-Dravida community. I am grateful to the hon. the Revenue Member for the sympathetic reply he gave at the closing time of the general budget debate when he assured us that this matter was receiving his attention and proper safeguards would be provided to ensure a better percentage of representation to members of our communities in the public services. Sir, according to the census I am told that we are one-fifth of the total population. But unfortunately our percentage in the public services is so very negligible as to be almost nothing. I do not think it is even one per cent. The question of our representation in the public services has been hanging fire for years together. Whether it be in the district boards, taluk boards, the municipal councils or in Government service either in the Revenue, the Judicial or the Police departments, we find the same disappointment. Time and again in this Council not only myself but other members of the depressed classes have been appealing to the Government that some tangible efforts must be made to give us our share, and as this question has now come on the anvil, I am sure the Government, at least the hon. the Revenue Member will rise to the occasion and do something. My hon. Friends who preceded me have clearly told us about the great hardship one is put to in the matter of getting employment or recommendation through the Madras Services Commission. It is not only that they have to spend many months to get their names included in the list, but they are put to a lot of expense in addition. To sit for the competitive examination they have to obtain a medical certificate, and have to pay a certain fee for admission to that examination. Having known the economic condition of the depressed classes and also knowing the smallest percentage that we form among the literate people, I do not think that that Commission would enforce their rules against a community so unfortunate in the sphere of the public services. I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member that he will kindly see that the Madras Services Commission makes adequate and proper rules to see that a larger percentage of our men are recruited to the various services under the Government."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, although the mover of the motion indicated in his speech his desire that we should abolish the Madras Services Commission, I gather that that desire is not shared very widely in this House, and that it is generally recognized that the Commission is really essential for the purity of the services. Now, Sir, suggestions have been made by many hon. Member that the rules are made by the Commission. But I may point out at the beginning of my remarks that the rules are not made by the Commission but are made by the Government and the Commission

[Mr. A. Kondappa] [17th March 1931

are inclined, began to preach to his co-workers to practice equalty. This was resented by his superior, a casteman and by other people who were associated with him. They thought that their prestige and dignity would be lost if this man were allowed to preach about equality of all men in season and out of season.

4-30 p.m. "So they took the first opportunity of sending him home; and in that way, sometimes weak men, incompetent men, who are in the good graces of officers with caste prejudices are allowed to prosper and rise, and very competent men, honest people drawn from the depressed classes suddenly find that their probation is termnated. That is a state of affairs which ought not to be tolerated in the interests of the depressed classes and in the interests of the efficient administration of the public servicesin this province. So, it is highly essential that in the case of the public service, the depressed classes should be largely recruited and protected because they have no godfathers either in the services or outside the services to champion their rights and see that they are protected and promoted. And whenever any depressed class man is sent out of the service, there should be a special enquiry by some outside authority; and unless such authority agrees, the depressed class men ought not to be sent out of the service. So, Sir, that is my experience, and I do not think the educated man, the ordinary educated man in this province, feels very much for the men of the depressed classes either in service or outside the service. Well, Sir, the high caste Hindu has been a sinner for ages. He has been taking the services of these unfortunate depressed classes for ages and when it comes to a question of giving a helping hand to the depressed class man he does not show his gratitude to him. Therefore, Sir, it is high time in the interests of the depressed classes that people of other communities, Indians as well as Europeans, Muslims and non-Muslims, Brahmans and non-Brahmans, join hands and try to serve them to give them a chance, to encourage them, to protect them and to bring them up till they come up to the level of other communities in the province. That is a sacred duty, Sir, which we, the people of the province, owe to the depressed classes of this Presidency.

"With these remarks, Sir, I say that though there is no necessity to abolish the Madras Services Commission, there is every necessity to look sympathetically into the claims of the depressed classes and I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will communicate the views of this House to the Madras Services Commission so that they may take appropriate measures in order to advance and safeguard the interests of the depressed classes. If the hon. Member for Revenue gives that assurance I would request my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, to withdraw his motion, so that we may be in a position to judge how things stand at the next chance a year hence."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a similar motion for a token cut to draw the attention of the Government to the poor representation of Adi-Dravidas in

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

enquiry. Now, according to the orders, the Collector distributes the successful candidates among the various offices in his district, not only in his department but in other departments also. And whenever any candidate leaves his appointment, the Collector must be informed. So, no person can be removed from the service without knowledge of the Collector. We have also provided that an appeal against any order dispensing with a candidate's services may lie to the Madras Services Commission. It will be realized that in that way the Government have given sufficient protection for candidates whose probation may be terminated on insufficient grounds.

"As regards the question of encouraging particular communities I already intimate that if it is found on a perusal of the results of the recent examination, that some protection for certain communities is desirable we might perhaps raise the maximum age of candidates from certain communities for a certain time. I am opposed to individual exemptions as they lead to complaints of favouritism. A general increase of maximum age by one year for, say, five years might give some relief to particular communities. 4-45 p.m.

"My attention has also been drawn to the fact that the fees are high. The fee for a medical certificate is Rs. $7\frac{1}{2}$ and the fee for the examination for a clerkship is Rs. 5. There are some other examinations for which the fee is Rs. 15. The question whether we should reduce the fee will be considered if it appears that the fee has a real effect of discouraging the candidates of certain communities. I am afraid there is sometimes the tendency on the part of candidates of backward communities to refrain from applying for clerkships in the hope that they will get some higher posts in the vacancies reserved for these communities. I would deprecate that attitude. It leads to candidates passing the maximum age without getting any post at all, though they might well obtain, if they had chosen to appear, inferior posts. We are doing our best, Sir, to see that communities are fairly represented in the Government service. Necessarily it will take some years to feel the result of our work because we can apply the correction only at the beginning of service in the department. Communal representation can only be enforced generally on candidates at the time of entering service and I am sure hon. Members will see that it will take some years for those who are admitted now into service to effect a marked change in the constitution of the services as a whole. I hope, Sir, that I have satisfied hon. Members that we are watching the effect of the present rules regarding communal representation. We have got to wait. The old idea by which persons were appointed on this recommendation or that, or for being somebody's friend or for having had a note from some 'god father ' is gone. I hope it has ceased entirely. We are introducing a new system and necessarily it must be to some extent experimental. We have drafted the rules as carefully as we can. If in any respect amendment is found necessary I may assure the House that that amendment will be taken into consideration."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

[17th March 1931

* The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—" I move—

' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats, by Rs.* 100.'

to discuss the desirability of exempting for a reasonable period the candidates from among the Muhammadans and depressed classes from the age-limit prescribed under the existing rules relating to the recruitment to public service. Sir, the causes that contribute to the backward condition of certain communities and also to their inadequate representation in the services are all well known. It is unnecessary for me to state them in detail. Economic disabilities and social habits are responsible for the present pathetic condition of these two communities as far as the representation in the services is concerned. Age-long practices and economic backward condition prevent many promising young members of these communities from passing their examination in time to secure services under Government. When it is realized that at a time like this when everybody is anxious to secure good-will and co-operation of every community irrespective of its influence and strength and when all these causes are recognized to be real, I think it is unnecessary for me to deal at any length with this subject. I hope and trust that the Government will bestow serious and sympathetic consideration in this proposal of mine and I trust and let me hope that it will be possible for them to raise the age-limit so as to provide more reasonable facilities to these communities to get their due and legitimate share in the services. With these few words, Sir, I hope this proposal of mine will receive sympathetic consideration and acceptance by the hon. the Revenue Member and also the co-operation of the various sections of the House."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Sir, I think I have already dealt with this subject at length in my previous remarks and promised to consider them."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" I move—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 8,14,500 *for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

I have given notice to elicit information as to what course they adopt in selecting people to higher and lower grades. All the clerks are to pass through the Madras Services Commission. When they pass that examination how are they to be selected to the higher or the lower grade, whether the examination marks of the Commission are taken into consideration or the marks in the University are taken into consideration? I want to know at the same time whether the claims of the minority communities are taken into consideration because they belong to minority communities though they may not have higher qualifications necessary for the upper grade. Then, Sir, I also gave the cut motion for asking why people appearing for the Madras Services Commission

17th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

should produce a medical certificate from a District Surgeon. They have to pay Rs. 5 as application fee and then Rs. 15 for medical fee. I want to ask the Member in charge, Sir, whether it is possible for the poor Adi-Dravidas and several other people even people in the high caste to pay Rs. 20 for application not knowing whether they are sure to get appointments or not. It is enough if they produce medical certificate from any ordinary medcal practitioner or assistant surgeon and if they are to be confirmed then the Government pays the District Surgeon. Now the Government are not paying. The people are paying. It is a very great hardship. I do not know why there should be an examination for B.As. They pass S.S.L.C. and Intermediate and B.A. Why should there be another examination? Why should they not take the marks of these people from the University. Even the double graduates have to go through the examination to get an employment in Government service. All these things have no meaning. Why should clerks be appointed by the Madras Services Commission? If the clerks' appointment were to go to the heads of departments, it will not be so hard as it is now when it has to go to the Services Commission. Another thing is I see the Secretariat clerks doing work till 8 and 9 p.m. I want the hon. Member in charge to make an order that no electric lights should burn after 6 o'clock in the evening. They do that in order to please the superiors and the result is that in their fortieth year they become diabetic and before they get their pension they die. Then there should be a general rule that after eleven months of service every clerk should take leave for one month. I am telling this in the interest of the nation and efficiency. Another thing is if people drawing higher salaries go on leave they get their full pay and half pay. When the peons go on leave they do not get anything at all, if another peon is appointed in their place. I hope the Government will view this with consideration."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member has covered a good deal of the ground with which I have already dealt and I need not go about the same ground by repeating the answers I have given. He asked a question as to the method of recruitment to the Secretariat. Sir, the Madras Services Commission places the selected candidates in the same way as in other offices in the order of merit in different communities. If a Secretary wants a clerk of a particular community he will have to take him from the list of the Services Commission. Some promotion from the lower grade to the upper grade is permitted and this will not be provided for in the rules which are now under consideration. The hon. Member objected to the clerks in the Secretariat working after 5 o'clock. I entirely agree with him. I am afraid, however, that there are certain priods in a year specially during the Legislative Council Session when the work is unusually heavy in the Secretariat and when the clerks have to work long hours. It is not feasible to employ temporary men for the period as we must have clerks who have dealt with the file to put up the necessary notes and records. I also agree with my hon. Friend that

clerks in Government service should take leave from time to time in their own interest as well as Government's; we should not refuse them leave but we are not in a position to compel them to take leave.

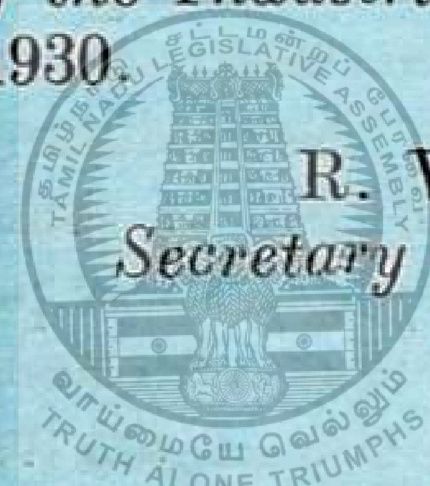
"It has been stated that the fee charged for medical certificate is extraordinarily heavy; the fee is Rs. 7-8-0. If more is charged in any case, I shall be glad if my attention is drawn to such case. The pay of peons while on leave is governed by the Fundamental Rules. At present men in inferior service cannot under those rules have leave on full allowance. I am afraid the present is not a very good time to bring forward a proposal for increasing the expenditure."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

At this stage the House rose for the day, to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

V—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *G.O. No.* 101, *Development, dated* 23*rd January* 1931, *passing orders on the audit report of the Industrial Engineering Workshop for the year ending* 31*st March* 1930.



R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

---

[a] Printed separately.